Green Thumb
NEWS
Denver Botanic Gardens
January1995
Number 95-1

Horticulture Magazine Water Symposium at DBG February 9

You can meet four of the nation's top gardening experts Thursday, February 9, as they show you how to add water to your landscape during a symposium presented by Denver Botanic Gardens and *Horticulture* magazine, "Water In the Garden: Adding the Essential Element." From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall, they will introduce Front Range gardeners to design, plants and garden style.

The symposium is suited for amateur gardeners, landscape designers, and nursery and garden center professionals. It will reveal the range of options for bringing water elements to residential landscapes, and will explore the fascinating potential of plants in and around water features. Whether your home design is relaxed, "natural" or dramatically formal, your decision to include water will bring a new dimension to your garden.

In the first talk, "Design with Water," James van Sweden will explain how he and Wolfgang Oehme design, build and plant water features in the "soft landscape" style that has become their signature. Van Sweden is the co-founder of Oehme, van Sweden & Associates Inc., Baltimore and Washington, D.C. He has designed public and private gardens throughout North America, including the New American Garden at the National Arboretum and the gardens of the Federal Reserve Bank and International Center in Washington, D.C.

Gardeners in Mediterranean climates have for centuries recognized the spirit of the oasis and have used small amounts of water to highlight their gardens. Isabelle C. Greene will explore classic and unconventional ways to bring the experience of water to Mediterranean-style gardens in the second lecture, "Wet Water — Dry Water." Greene, principal of Isabelle C. Greene and Associates, Santa Barbara, Calif., has designed more than 400 landscapes, primarily in the western United States. Her public projects have included the Silver Garden at Longwood Gardens, Penn., and restoration of the outdoor theater at Lotusland in Santa Barbara, Calif.

Introducing the sound of moving water or the reflective gleam of still water can have a remarkable effect in a small space. Philip Watson will illustrate how to add water features to smaller gardens with water sconces, trickling water and water containers in his lecture "Water in Small Places." Watson, owner of Washington Gardens, Fredericksburg, Va., specializes in the design and installation of residential gardens. His own water garden has been featured in *Horticulture* magazine.

Some of the loveliest and most fascinating plants known to gardeners are those that grow in and around water. Anita Nolan Nelson will show how to select and grow an exciting range of colorful and elegant aquatic plants in "Plants In and Beside Water." Nelson, assistant vice president of Lilypons Water Garden Inc., Berkshire, Texas, is a founding member of the International Water Lily Society. She teaches at Mercer Arboretum and Houston Arboretum and lectures nationally on water gardening and water lily culture.

The cost for this all-day program is $89 for DBG members, $99 for *Horticulture* subscribers, $109 for nonmembers and $58 for students with proof of full-time status. All registration fees except the student rate include lunch. Please indicate your choice of regular or vegetarian lunch on your registration.

Members will be sent a brochure and registration form from *Horticulture* magazine. Or you may call the DBG education department, 370-8020 or 370-8019, to register directly.

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From the Executive Director

One of Denver Botanic Gardens' true gems is our Helen Fowler Library. It holds a wealth of information available to everyone, but only DBG members and schoolteachers have borrowing privileges.

With winter upon us, what better time is there to spend a few minutes or hours browsing or finding the answer to a particular gardening problem? In addition to holding thousands of books, the library subscribes to some 260 periodicals. We have a superb collection of seed and nursery catalogs, so you can find nearly any plant available in the market today. (Check your copy of the Education Program catalog for the class on seed and nursery catalogs offered later this month.)

If you're planning a winter or spring trip, the library has information on public gardens you may wish to visit and floras of the world for plant explorers.

Also, January is a good time to bring in your used books for our used book sale this spring. The proceeds from the sale go directly to purchasing new books for the library.

Helen Fowler Library is open Tuesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Please take advantage of this terrific resource.

Richard H. Daley

Summer Internships Available in Applied Horticulture

Students interested in studying horticulture should apply for Denver Botanic Gardens' 1995 summer internships in applied horticulture.

The 10-week internship, June 5 to August 11, offers them the opportunity to work alongside the Gardens' professional gardening staff, learning the daily operations of a public display garden. Field trips, special projects and lectures round out the program that highlights Front Range horticulture.

Work experience includes planting, watering, pruning and weeding on the outside grounds; seeding, transplanting and propagation in the greenhouses; assisting with the tropical and subtropical plant displays; and attending a weekly lecture and field trip.

Applicants currently must be enrolled in college or university programs (including graduate programs), and preference will be given to residents of or students in the states of Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. The program welcomes traditional and nontraditional students.

To qualify for the program applicants must have completed their sophomore year with a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 and be enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student. Several introductory courses in botany and horticulture are prerequisites.

DBG is seeking applicants for two Alice Mann Owen Internships in Applied Horticulture, two Beatrice B. Taplin Internships in Applied Horticulture and a Clara Van Schaak Phipps Internship in Applied Horticulture. Additional support is provided by the Denver Botanic Gardens Guild, the Associates of Denver Botanic Gardens and the Men's Garden Club of Denver.

Inquiries and requests for application materials should be directed to Paula Ogilvie, DBG adult education specialist, 370-8041. Application materials are due March 1.

DBG Sets Free Days for the Year

Denver Botanic Gardens will continue its free Sunday mornings this coming summer, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 4 through September 3. Special educational, family-oriented activities will highlight each free morning. An additional free day is January 16, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Chatfield Arboretum will offer free admission the first Saturday of each month. Colorado residents can enter the arboretum at no charge from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on these days.

Watch future issues of *Green Thumb News* for details on special free day activities at Denver Botanic Gardens, Chatfield Arboretum and other Tier I cultural institutions that receive support from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District.

Tributes

In memory of Else J. Burger
Mr. William Burger
Roy, Rick, Bob Burger and families

In memory of John Falkenberg
Mr. & Mrs. Hays Glover III
Ms. Sarah G. See
L. Joan Spilka
Mr. & Mrs. J. Clinton Bowman, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Kirk
Mr. & Mrs. Gary P. LaPlante

In memory of Lincoln Gries
Junior League of Denver Garden Club

In memory of Marge Willson
Barbara & Hank Koehler

Green Thumb News
Number 95-1
January 1995

Published monthly by the Marketing and Special Events Department of Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206

Editor: Larry Latta, 370-8033
Deadline for March issue: Jan. 20

Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum are established and maintained by Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc., for the people of the City and County of Denver and for the general public in cooperation with the Denver Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Botanic Gardens is also grateful for funds from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which enable the Gardens to expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Accredited by the American Association of Museums

Thank You, Events Supporters

Webster Dictionary defines support as "A means of maintenance ... To provide for, by supplying money or necessities ..." DBG's event supporters have lived up to this definition, becoming partners with the Gardens to present exciting special events.

Denver Botanic Gardens greatly appreciates the following organizations who contributed money or other assistance for special events during the year.

Albertsons
American Clay Works
Applewood Seed Company
ArtReach
Bigg's Hyper Store
Bloomin' Gardenz Inc.
Bonnie Brae Ice-Cream
Bouquets
The Brass Bed of Denver Ltd.
Bromar Colorado
Calvary Temple
Candy's Tortillas
Carpet Mill
Carte D'Or
Catering by Lorie Cordova
Cherry Creek Inn
Chicano Humanities and Arts Council
The Children's Museum
Celestial Seasonings Inc.
Center Rental and Service Inc.
Colorado Barricade
Continental Airlines
Craftsman Inc.
Cub Foods
Cypruss Amax
Deep Rock Water
Denver Art Museum
Denver Cable Coalition
Denver Botanic Gardens Associates
Denver Botanic Gardens Guild
Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys
Denver Museum of Natural History
Denver Parks and Recreation
The Denver Post
Denver Zoo
Double Decker Bus Company
Dreyers Grand Ice Cream
Foley's
Garden Club of Denver
Great West Life
Hobby Lobby
K-M Concessions
KBCO FM
KDVR - FOX 31 TV
KHIH AM FM
KMGH TV - Colorado's 7
KNUS AM
KOOL - 105 FM
KUVO FM
KVOD FM
King Soopers
Kraft Foodservice
Lange Graphics
Le Petite Gourmet
ListenUp Audio/Visual
M&M/Mars
Mamacita's
Meadow Gold Ice Cream
Mile High Jazz Band
Radio Resources
Robert Waxman Camera and Video
Rocky Mountain Bank Card
Robinson Dairy Inc.
Rocky Mountain News
Paulino's Garden Center
Pentax
Safeway
Sam's Club
Savageau Gallery
Sinton Dairy
Sir Speedy Printing Center
Spectrum Audio Visual
Target Stores
Teikyo Loretto Heights, Center for Japan Studies
Tele-Communications Inc.
University Hospital
US Wireless Data
Veldkamp's
Wagner Equipment Company
Waste Management of Colorado
Welby Gardens
Wizard's Chest

Employees of the Month

Benny Juarez, a relative newcomer to the Denver Botanic Gardens staff, was chosen by his coworkers as October's employee of the month.

In just a few months Benny has won over everyone with his enthusiasm, cooperation and pleasant customer-service oriented personality. He also was cited for the initiative he has shown in solving many accounts payable problems with a smile and with true professionalism.

Congratulations also go to Pauline Donohue, who was named DBG's November employee of the month.

Pauline's duties have increased this year as the executive director has become more involved in the campaign to renew SCFD and the continuing effort to preserve the DBG concert season. The advent of a new director of finance and administration also has added to her responsibilities, which she continues to handle in her "trademarked" efficient and thorough manner. In addition to being the prototype of an executive secretary, she is a caring individual and takes pride in a job well done.

Congratulations, Benny and Pauline.

Corporate Friend of the Gardens

Colorado National Bank

Colorado National Bank contributes to the success of Colorado in many ways. In addition to providing reliable, affordable financial services to families and businesses throughout the state, CNB actively works to enhance the quality of life of the people it serves.

Its commitment to enhance the fabric of our communities is made evident through diverse programs focusing on education, small businesses and nonprofit organizations. By participating in a matching gift program, CNB also encourages its employees to support schools, universities and community organizations.

We are fortunate to count CNB among our corporate supporters. Thank you for being a Friend of the Gardens.

DBG Members in for Exciting Excursions

The Denver Botanic Gardens travel committee has arranged the following DBG-sponsored excursions for members to put in their travel plans.

Call Teresa Valdez at 370-8064 for more information. Additional information and full itineries will be printed in future issues of *Green Thumb News*.

1995

Greece and Turkey
April 15-May 6

Aspen Wildflower Excursion
July 14-17

Rocky Mountain National Park Family Excursion
August 25-27

Seattle, Washington
September 13-17

1996

Ireland
mid-May

Philadelphia/Brandywine
fall

Grow 'Christmas' Flowers of Europe in Your Garden

If you mention "Christmas flower" to most Americans, Poinsettia would likely come to mind. But anyone who has lived or travelled in Europe knows that the classic yuletide flower on the Continent is and always will be the Christmas rose, *Helleborus niger*.

There is nothing unusual about blossoms in snow in Colorado — where snow can fall most any day of the year. But a plant that waits until the winter solstice to bloom, that opens its buds with the first subzero weather and blooms only on the coldest days of winter — this is surely the stuff of legends.

The genus *Helleborus* contains a dozen or so species of hardy, herbaceous perennials that remind many of muted, nodding peonies. The leaves are particularly lovely, often evergreen — thick palmate fronds of waxy, almost succulent texture in rich shades of green. The genus is classed in the *Ranunculaceae*, or buttercup family, which some botanists have recently further subdivided into the *Helleboraceae*.

Hellebores are found from England and Western Europe all the way to Tibet. The genus has found its center of greatest diversity and complexity in the former Yugoslavia, particularly in Bosnia-Hercegovina, where eight species and many unusual color forms occur.

The true Christmas rose '*Helleborus niger*' is a plant of subalpine woodlands from Northern Italy throughout the Alps to the Dolomites of northern Croatia. Its leaves are succulent, leathery and medium green. The flower stems are rarely more than a foot tall, usually much less, with outfacing flowers up to 3 inches wide — a shocking white color.

In the Rock Alpine Garden the first buds appear in October, but the plant rarely comes into full bloom until the first thaw of December. As I write this article in early December, the largest clumps have more than 17 buds and open flowers. These will continue to bloom through the darkest days of winter, with a few flowers still lingering through March — a total of more than five months — surely the longest blooming perennial I have ever grown. More and more mail-order nurseries and local garden centers offer the Christmas rose for sale.

The hellebore most often encountered in gardens is the lenten rose (*Helleborus orientalis*), with dark green leaves and maroon, purplish, sometimes nearly black, nodding flowers on stems 1 to 2 feet tall. It grows wild in Turkey and the Caucasus region.

If you decide you want to grow this or any other hellebore, look around your garden for a shady spot with relatively fertile, porous soil. It's always a good idea to amend the soil with humus since hellebores are plants of the woodlands. It's best to obtain hellebores growing in pots, and plant them in your garden in the spring. Divisions can take as long a time to reestablish as it takes to bloom from seed.

Like their cousins the peonies, hellebores are long-lived, permanent plants that hate disturbance. Find a good niche, plant them this spring and expect to have a floral friend that will bring you pleasure all your life.

—Panayoti Kelaidis, Curator
DBG Rock Alpine Garden

Front Range Plant Lover: January

• Growing herbs at your window? Even if you haven't been using them as fast as they've grown, keep snipping back the tips to keep the plants bushy. In mid-winter's weak sunshine they will tend to get gangly — most herbs prefer strong light. Cook with the snippets, or dry them for later use.

• If you want to try unusual varieties of onions in your garden this year, you may have to start your own plants from seed. For biggest bulbs at harvest time, plant your seed indoors over heat late this month. Onions mature — and the bulbs stop growing larger — by midsummer (they're influenced by the short nights) no matter when they're started, so get a jump on the season.

• Don't haul that Christmas tree to the trash. Prop it in a corner of the backyard for a bird shelter — even stock it with seeds and fruit — or cut off the branches to protect roses or perennials from winter's drying winds and sun.

• Keep amaryllis, poinsettias and spring bulbs growing actively in the light of a sunny window if you hope to save them for another season. Come spring or early summer, you'll plant the spring bulbs (they'll be leafless) in the yard. Toss your paperwhites — they're not hardy here and they're not worth their trouble as houseplants.

• Renew your spirits with a stroll along the Platte River Greenway, Cherry Creek or the Highline Canal. Glance at the ground now and then: you may spy the first wildflowers of the year (dandelions don't count): The tiny, bright pink or magenta flowers are crane's bills (*Erodium cicutarium*). Actually, they're weeds of waste places and loose, disturbed soils — but their cheery blossoms and interesting fruits are welcome sights to a January plant lover

Five New House Plants Suggested for Low Light

Even fanatical gardeners may experience a little relief with autumn's first frosty weather — but by January we all need some green to return to our lives. So why not add a few of the exciting new cultivars of tropical plants to your indoor home and your life?

DBG's indoor horticulture staff has selected five favorite recent introductions — four aroids (philodendron relatives) and a fern — they believe will be wonderful additions to Colorado homes. These all enjoy some shade (don't put them in a hot window) and some humidity. If you don't have your own conservatory you can provide humidity by occasionally misting the plants or by placing them on pebble trays — shallow dishes filled with attractive stones and water. Be sure your pot sits above the water level.

• *Philodendron cv.* 'Prince of Orange': This is a "bird's nest" type of philodendron. Its new growth emerges bright orange; mature leaves are reddish orange on the underside, glossy green on top. It likes a fertile, fairly loose soil that drains freely. Keep it moist but not waterlogged, and shade it from strong sun.

• *Xanthosoma lindenii cv.* 'Magnificum': This plant has arrowhead-shaped leaves, yellow-green to dark green, broadly veined with white or creamy white, with a pale line parelleling the leaf edge. It likes deep, rich, moist soil and light shade.

• *Anthurium cv.* 'Crystal Hope': This compact aroid has dark green, heart-shaped leaves with very showy silver veins. It requires little water and tolerates low light.

• *Spathiphyllum cv.* 'Princess': This aroid has rounded leaves with textured, undulating margins. It remains compact, producing crisp, white flowers, and it grows best with some humidity and good light, but not strong, direct sun. Keep its rich but well-drained soil constantly moist. This has made a great groundcover plant in DBG's conservatory.

• *Nephrolepis cv.* 'Lemon Button': This Boston fern cultivar looks more like a maidenhair fern: It has rounded leaves and an upright habit. It needs more humidity than the other cultivars of the species, and medium light and moderately moist soil serve it best.

—Gary Davis, Operations Supervisor
DBG Indoor Horticulture

DBG Member Questionnaire Results

Recently, a written survey was distributed to a random sample of about 2,500 members to learn about their particular interests, what they like and dislike about the Gardens and what they want from their membership. Nearly 30 percent of chosen members returned completed surveys: A gratifying response rate.

Preliminary results indicate that most members join to support the Gardens, because gardening is their favorite pastime or they enjoy the free admission and events.

The majority of members surveyed believe DBG should keep benefits at the current level in regard to IRS tax deductions.

Most members visit the Gardens one to six times a year.

The most frequently cited favorite characteristics of DBG are the beauty of the Gardens and its relaxing environment.

The least favorite facets of DBG are the limited parking, crowded events, the shortage of places to sit and the lack of a tea room or food facility for visitors.

30% off

All Christmas Ornaments in January

Denver Botanic Gardens Gift Shop
1005 York Street

(No other discounts apply.)

Continental Airlines, Tier 1's To 'Explore'

Denver Museum of Natural History will explore Turkish culture Friday, January 20, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at "Exploring the Treasures of Turkey."

The program is the first of the year sponsored by Continental Airlines, in a series called "Explore Our World" at the four SCFD Tier 1 institutions. DBG's "Chile Harvest Festival" in August is one event of the series.

You and your family are invited to enjoy traditional Turkish foods, the rousing folkdance performances and live music of the country. You can browse through the displays of carpets, kilims and crafts.

The free community event is in the museum's southeast atrium and is done in cooperation with the American Turkish Cultural Society. Reservations are required. Call 322-7009.

Continental

'Great Garden' Photographers Awarded

More than 200 photographs were entered in this year's "Picture a Great Garden" photo contest and displayed in the show in Mitchell Hall this fall. Winning pictures also were shown on Colorado's 7 KMGH TV's midday news reports.

The first-prize photograph in the youth division was "Untitled," a colorful scene of grasses and flowers, by Jason Headrick of Aurora. Second place was "Peaceful Pond," a photo of the Japanese Gardens, by Jerica McClure-Pries of Aurora. Third place was "Cool Colors" showing a colorful layering of flowers by Zoe Standring.

In the adult division, first prize was awarded to Bruce Naylor of Lakewood for his photo of poinsettias, "Blue." Second place was "Winter" by Rob Bridges of Denver. The third-place winner was a vibrant close-up "Yellow Sentinel," by Linda Hamlin.

First prize in each division was a Pentax PZ 10 SLR camera system with a 28mm to 80 mm power zoom lens. Winning photos were selected by representatives from Robert Waxman Inc., Pentax, KMGH-TV Colorado's 7, Pallas Photo and Denver Botanic Gardens.

Bruce Naylor's "Blue" enhanced a good composition of poinsettia blossoms with a deep blue filter.

July

1 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
2 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
8,9 Mile High Daylily Society Show
9 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
13 Birdhouse Preview Party
14-28 Birdhouse Display
15 Members' Picnic
16 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
21-30 Colorado Watercolor Society Show
22 Region 20 Iris Society Sale
Annual Butterfly Census at Chatfield Arboretum
23 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
30 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

August

2-13 "Glass at the Gardens": Stained Glass Show
3 Members' Preview: "Glass at the Gardens" — *free!*
5 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
6 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
13 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
19 Breakfast at Morrison Center — for members at Botanist Club level and above — *free!*
20 Colorado Mycological Society Mushroom Fair
Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
26,27 Chile Harvest Festival
"Kidding Around": Hummingbird Headdresses
27 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

September

2 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
3 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
5 New Members' Party — for members only — *free!*
7 Fête des Fleurs
9,10 3G's Gesneriad Show and Sale
13 Behind-the-Scenes Tour — for members at Arbor Circle level and above — *free!*
15 Perennial Plant Association Workshop
16,17 Fall Gardening Fair
"Kidding Around": Corn Creations
16 Members' Free Plant Dividend Day
24 Children's Event — for members only!
27 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture
29,30 Herbs — A Celebration

Gardens
303 331-4000 · TDD 370-8032

July

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August

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September

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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1995 Calender of Events

January

1 "Blossoms of Light" final evening
7 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
16 Free day at Denver Botanic Gardens
22 New Members' Party — for members only — *free!*

February

4 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
9 Symposium: "Water in the Garden: Adding the Essential Element" co-hosted by *Horticulture* magazine
12 Children's Event — for members only!
22 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture
28 Volunteer Guide Recruitment Open House Party — *free!*

March

2 Volunteer Guide Recruitment Open House Party at Chatfield Arboretum — *free!*
4 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
11 Denver Rose Society Symposium
18,19 Rocky Mountain African Violet Council Spring Show
22 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture
25,26 Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale

April

1 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
8, 9 Denver Orchid Society Show
15 Rocky Mountain Chapter, American Rock Garden Society Sale
18 Behind-the-Scenes Tour — for members at Arbor Circle level and above — *free!*
20 Volunteer Guide Recruitment Open House Party — *free!*
22,23 Ikebana International, Denver Chapter, Show
26 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture
29 Children's Event — for members only!

May

6 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
11 Annual Plant & Used Book Sale Preview Party
12,13 DBG Plant & Used Book Sale
17 DBG Guild Herb Garden Open House
20 Breakfast at York Street — for members at Botanist Club level and above — *free!*
20,21 Front Range Antique Power Show at Chatfield Arboretum
24 New Members' Party — for members only — *free!*

June

3 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
3,4 Region 20 Iris Society Show
4 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
5-7 National Fragrance Week Celebration
7 Behind-the-Scenes Tour — for members at Arbor Circle level and above — *free!*
8 "Flowers & Art" preview at Denver Art Museum
9-11 "Flowers & Art"
11 Colorado Water Garden Society Plant Sale
Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
17 Breakfast at Chatfield Arboretum — for members at Botanist Club level and above — *free!*
17,18 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society Exhibition
Rocky Mountain Koi Club Show
18 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
25 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

July

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29,30 Herbs — A Celebration

October

7 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
14 Pumpkin Festival at Chatfield Arboretum
"Kidding Around": Wearable Webs at Chatfield Arboretum
14,15 Denver Orchid Society Show
21 Rocky Mountain African Violet Council Fall Sale
25 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture
29 Goblins in the Gardens — for members only!

November

4 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
8 Tempel Wildflower Lecture
17, 18 DBG Holiday Sale

December

2 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
6, 7 Herald the Season — for members only!
9-1/1 "Blossoms of Light"
9 Teddy Bear Teas
13 Nature's Workshop
16 Teddy Bear Teas
20 Nature's Workshop
27 Nature's Workshop

Denver Botanic Gardens
1005 York Street · Denver · 80206 · 303 331-4000 · TDD 370-8032

January

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Chatfield Arboretum
8500 Deer Creek Canyon Road · Littleton · 80123 · 303 973-3705
Southwest of Wadsworth Blvd. & C470

1995 Calender of Events

January

1 "Blossoms of Light" final evening
7 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
16 Free day at Denver Botanic Gardens
22 New Members' Party — for members only — *free!*

February

4 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
9 Symposium: "Water in the Garden: Adding the Essential Element" co-hosted by *Horticulture* magazine
12 Children's Event — for members only!
22 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture
28 Volunteer Guide Recruitment Open House Party — *free!*

March

2 Volunteer Guide Recruitment Open House Party at Chatfield Arboretum — *free!*
4 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
11 Denver Rose Society Symposium
18,19 Rocky Mountain African Violet Council Spring Show
22 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture
25,26 Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale

Denver Bot
1005 York Street · Denver · 80206

January

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From Your Membership Office

For New Members: A Tropical Get-away

New members are invited to a tropical getaway, to tour DBG's behind-the-scenes production greenhouses and enjoy refreshments in John C. Mitchell II Hall. The event is from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, January 22. For details or to make your reservation call Amy Capra, 370-8021.

A Valuable DBG Benefit

One of the most valuable DBG membership benefits is Helen Fowler Library. More than 23,500 volumes on horticultural, botanical and related subjects are available for check-out. An ever-increasing number of videos, magazines, brochures and seed and equipment catalogs are also on hand.

You can improve your gardening plan for next summer, or use the library's resources to choose your next vacation site. A special section of books has been set aside just for kids. Drop by soon.

Give a Year-Long Valentine to Your Love

You can give your sweetheart flowers all year long with a DBG membership. A special packet of forget-me-not seeds will be included with each Valentine gift membership. Call the membership office, 370-8029.

Give a DBG Membership!

General Benefits for All Members

- Free admission to York Street and Chatfield facilities
- *Green Thumb News* and *Mountain, Plain & Garden* magazine
- Discounts on classes and field trips
- 10% discount at Gift Shop and at the Plant & Used Book Sale
- Early admission to the Plant & Used Book Sale
- Free plant upon joining and yearly plant dividend
- Borrowing privileges at Helen Fowler Library

❑ The Gardener – $25 – One card admits member; One guest pass.

❑ The Landscaper – $35 – One card admits member and guest; Two guest passes.

❑ The Arbor Circle – $50 – Two cards, each card admits three; Greenhouse tours; Four guest passes.

❑ The Botanist Club – $120 – Two cards, each card admits three; Merchant discounts; Greenhouse tours; A breakfast in the Gardens; 10 guest passes.

Senior Member Dividend—Members 65 or older at any level of membership may ask for another guest pass each time they use their card to enter the Gardens!

With each gift we will send two special magnetic picture frames as an introductory bonus.

Please send a gift membership to:

Name(s)_____

_____

Address_____

City _____ State ____ Zip_____

Home Phone_____ Work Phone_____

Donor's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip_____

Phone _____

Sign gift card _____

Gift card ❑ taken, or mail ❑ to recipient ❑ to me, by (date) _____

Enclosed is my check for $ _____ to Denver Botanic Gardens.

Charge membership to ❑ VISA ❑ MC

_____ Exp.____

Signature _____

Recipients receive a card informing them of your gift plus a free plant that may be picked up at the Gardens.

Please return this form with payment to:
Denver Botanic Gardens Membership Office
Dept. 251
Denver, CO 80291-0251
Questions **or** to order by phone call 370-8029.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206-3799
303-331-4000 • 370-8032 TDD

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January

Coming U

[illegible] indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For course information see DBG's winter Education Programs or call 370-8020.

January

7 Gloxinia, Gesneriad Growers meeting
Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
9 **Water-Wise Flower Garden*
10 Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting
**Hobby Greenhouses*
11 **Conservatoy Guide Training*
**From the Ground Up: Designing Your Home Landscape*
12 **Basic Landscape Design*
14 **Botany for Beginners*
Language of Plants
Seed and Nursery Catalog Blowout
Winter Rose Wreath
15 Mile High Daylily Society meeting
16 Free day at DBG
17 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting
18 **Designing a Perennial Border*
19 **Beginning Bonsai*
21 Rocky Mountain African Violet Council meeting
**Garden Fundamentals: Principles of Water-Smart Gardening™*
22 New Members' Party — members only
Close-up Flower Photography I
Plentiful Polenta
23 Ultra Violet Club meeting
24 *Container Herb Gardening*
**Beginning Botanical Watercolors & Acrylics*
26 African Violet Society of Denver meeting
26 Ikebana International, Denver Chapter meeting
28 *Identifying Colorado Conifers*
29 *Behind-the-Scenes Greenhouse Tour I*

February

1 *Herbal Soap*
4 Gloxinia, Gesneriad Growers meeting
American Iris Society judges workshop
** Winter Tree Identification*
Growing Plants Under Lights
Beginning Beekeeping
Rainforest Delights (for grades 3-5)
Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
5 **Birds & Berries: Landscaping for Wildlife*
Easy, Colorful Gardens
6 *Care & Handling of Cut Flowers*
7 Rocky Mountain African Violet Council meeting
**Beginning Watercolor Painting — Introduction to Landscapes I*
9 Denver Rose Society meeting
Symposium: Water in the Garden: Adding the Essential Element
11 *Herbal Creations Workshop*
12 Children's Event — For members only
Bromeliad Workshop
Herb Topiaries for Valentine's Day
Cacti & Other Succulents for Beginners
14 Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting
Seduction and Passion in the Garden

What's at the Gardens?

In January the first whiff of spring at the Gardens will appear in the Lobby Court: a cool, streamside garden recreated with flowering shrubs in foamy, pastel shades, underplanted with a tapestry of colorful spring flowers — a preview of spring in the depths of winter.

Green Thumb News
Denver Botanic Gardens
February 1995

Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series brings experts on plants, ecology and garden history

From backyard gardening to Roman grottos and 6-foot topiaries, DBG's 1995 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series will explore a diversity of gardening that only the experience of five acclaimed horticultural experts and authors could bring.

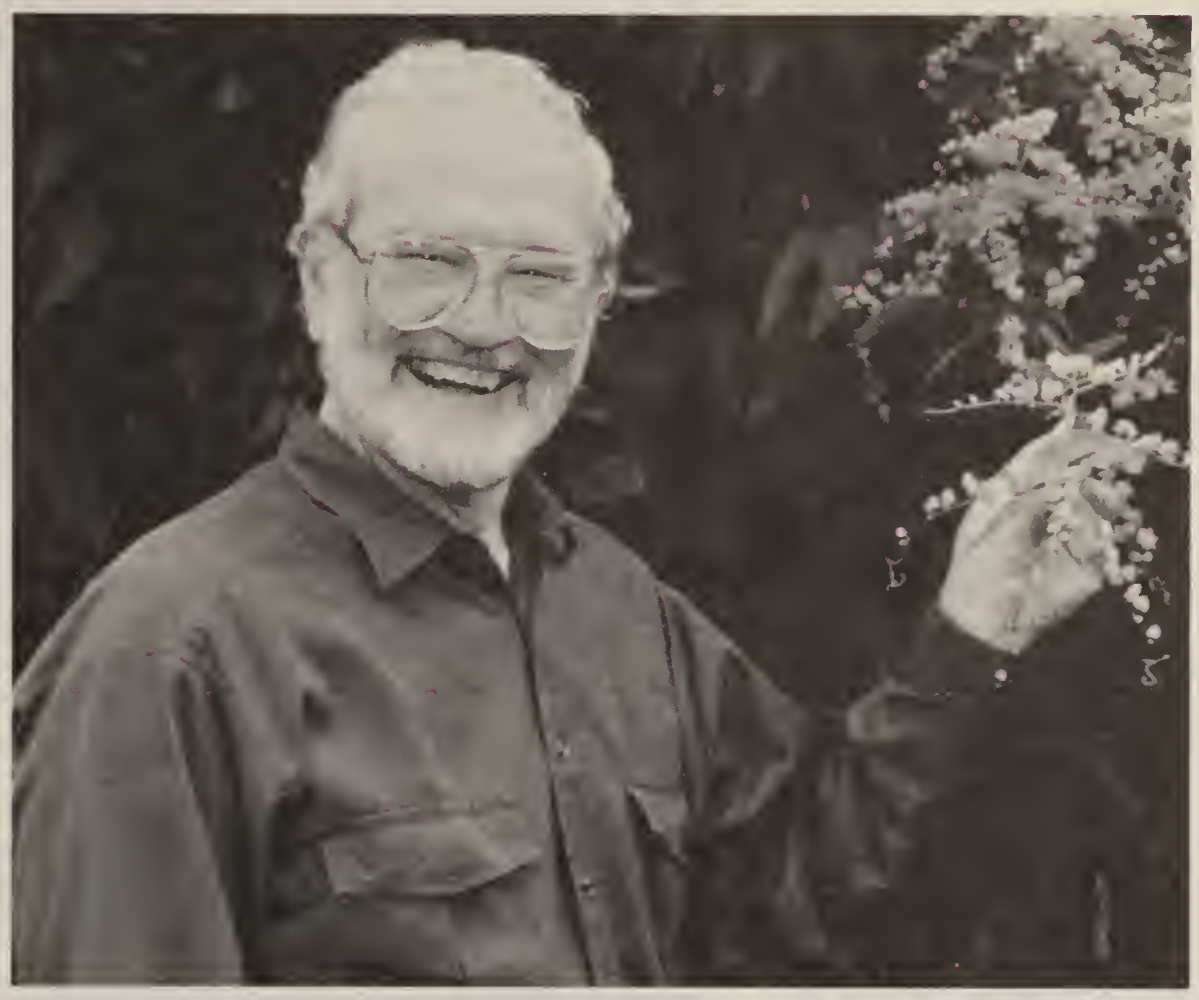
The series starts Wednesday, February 22. Members are encouraged to plan now to attend every lecture, to share the expertise and engaging speaking styles of all five nationally recognized speakers, and to take advantage of the significant savings that full-series tickets represent. Series tickets are only $30 for members and provide the convenience of one-time ordering.

This year's series begins with "Herbs for Beautiful Landscapes," presented by Jim Wilson. For gardeners who love herbs for their mystical qualities as well as their practical ones, herbs make great additions to the ornamental garden. Once popular in traditional kitchen gardens for culinary, fragrance or medicinal purposes, herbs are gaining popularity as an integral part of the home landscape with uses in pavements and walls, edgings and hedges, and herbs for containers and perennial borders. Wilson is the former co-host of PBS's popular "The Victory Garden" and owned and operated Savory Farms for seven years. A noted garden author, his latest book is *Landscaping with Herbs.*

Wednesday, March 22, horticulturalist Patricia Riley Hammer introduces you to "Topiary: A World of Whimsy in the Garden." Her creations range from 6-foot rabbits to a life-sized Dorothy and Toto of *The Wizard of Oz,* and she will offer a behind-the-scenes look at how these plant sculptures are constructed.

Allan M. Armitage presents "Perennials for the Faint of Heart" Wednesday, April 26. From hardy "blue collar" perennials to the newest hybrids and species, Armitage defines perennials as plants which, "had they lived, would bloom year after year."

On Wednesday, September 27, Roger Swain lectures on "Groundwork: A Gardener's Ecology." He will talk about creating a garden with low-maintenance, a garden that offers year-round pleasure, a garden ablaze with native flowers, while assessing gardening chores and practices that affect our environment.



Jim Wilson, personable former co-host of "The Victory Garden," leads off the exciting 1995 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series February 22 with "Landscaping with Herbs."

The series concludes with John Dixon Hunt's "Who Invented the Italian Garden?" Wednesday, October 25. He will discuss the history and theory of Italian Renaissance gardens, which encourage visitors to see, hear, smell, touch and taste.

Each lecture is at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall. For members with no season tickets individual lectures are $7 each. If space is available tickets will be sold for individual talks. Nonmember tickets are $40 for the series or $10 per lecture. Look for your Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series brochure in the mail for full details. Call the DBG education department, 370-8020 or 370-8019, to register or with questions.

Helen Fowler Library will remain open from 5 to 7 p.m. on lecture evenings. DBG's Gift Shop carries books by guest speakers, and lecturers will autograph books after their presentations.

This annual series has been generously supported by the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation since 1987.

Inside this issue:

Dryland plants shown at Chatfield Arboretum are recommended for a garden of year-round beauty.

– pages 4 & 5

Has a new species of fungus – a truffle, in fact – been discovered in a Denver backyard?

– page 6

DBG members get in free to New England and Pennsylvania flower shows.

– page 7

From the executive director

Membership at the Gardens has grown tremendously in recent years. By the end of 1994 we had reached 13,800 active members. As the membership grows and diversifies we are keeping pace by offering a variety of interesting "members-only" programs – some fun, some educational, some designed for children, some oriented to adults.

While there is (hopefully) something for everyone, I think it is worth calling attention to the members-only events that give you a unique opportunity to see and learn about the areas and the people of the Gardens.

In 1995 we will host three "Behind-the-Scenes Tours" (April 18, June 7 and September 13). These very popular evening gatherings give members the opportunity to tour the production greenhouses with knowledgeable staff and volunteers. Entertainment and refreshments are provided.

Our breakfast-and-tour programs also are quite popular. In 1995 three early morning tours will be conducted: May 20, beginning in the Home Demonstration Garden with tours through the York Street gardens; June 17 at Chatfield Arboretum; and August 26 at the Morrison Center with a tour of the sensory garden. All sites are lovely for an early continental breakfast, and our volunteer guides look forward to sharing their knowledge of these gardens with you.

Another special day for members is Plant Dividend Day – the day you can pick up your free new plant from the Gardens. This year Plant Dividend Day is September 23 and will be part of our annual "Fall Gardening Fair." You can come to the Gardens, receive your new plant and take part in some of the gardening workshops and demonstrations available at the festival.

Notices of these and other member-only events will be published in the *Green Thumb News*; some will be announced by special invitations. I encourage you to watch for the announcements and reserve a place for these terrific programs.

– Richard H. Daley

KOOL 105 a corporate friend of the Gardens

KXKL/KOOL 105 radio's distinctive oldies style and promotions include fun for the entire family. KOOL 105 promotes community events such as "First Night Colorado" and "Parents Against Substance Abuse." KOOL hosts the largest oldies concert in America, another event which encourages family participation. This fall KOOL 105 was named the 1994 Marconi Award Winner for Oldies Station of the Year.

KOOL has promoted DBG's Blossoms of Light, Plant and Used Book Sale and the summer concert series. For the past four years it has been the official radio sponsor of the Pumpkin Festival at Chatfield Arboretum. DBG staff and volunteers are always eager to work with KOOL and look forward to continuing the relationship.

Fourth-Quarter '94 Four Seasons members

Denver Botanic Gardens welcomes the following Four Seasons members who began or renewed their support during the fourth quarter of 1994. Four Seasons members provide annual leadership support of $1,000 or more. Their generosity is vital to the ongoing operation of the Gardens' research, education and horticulture programs.

Ms. Sue Anschutz-Rodgers
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence A. Atler
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Baldwin
Mr. & Mrs. Rollin D. Barnard
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce D. Benson
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Brega
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald C. Cambre
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Childs
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Cleworth
Mr. & Mrs. William B. Collister
Mr. & Mrs. Edward P. Connors
Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Daley
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph S. Davis
Mrs. John Falkenberg
Mr. & Mrs. John E. Freyer
Mr. & Mrs. Charles C. Gates
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard H. Gemmill
Mr. & Mrs. Newell M. Grant
Mr. D. Deane Hall, Jr.
Mrs. J. Ramsay Harris
Mr. & Mrs. James R. Hartley
Mr. & Mrs. Cannon Y. Harvey
Mr. & Mrs. William D. Hewit
Ms. Joy R. Hilliard
Mr. & Mrs. George Ireland
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Kirk
Mr. & Mrs. Walter A. Koelbel
Mr. & Mrs. Fritz C. Knoebel
Mrs. Kay Lawrence
Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Lees
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Paul Luce
Ms. Sara Mann Moore
Mr. & Mrs. K.L. Nelson
Mr. & Mrs. Will F. Nicholson
Mr. & Mrs. Lester Pedicord
Mr. & Mrs. Allan R. Phipps
Hon. & Mrs. Roy Romer
Mr. & Mrs. George J. Schmitt
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey H. Schutz
Mr. & Mrs. John H. Stamper
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Taplin
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Thurston
Ms. Nancy B. Tieken
Mr. & Mrs. L. Clark Tierney, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Todd
Mr. & Mrs. John L. Tyler
Hon. & Mrs. Wellington Webb
Mr. & Mrs. John Williams
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Woods

Tributes

In memory of Kay Beimford
Katherine A. Van Hee

In memory of Betty S. Daley
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin D. Trevor

In memory of John Falkenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Warren
Ms. Karen Bergert

In memory of Ruth Hornbein
Ms. Helen P. Grant

In memory of Stanford L. Hyman
Ms. Harryl Hollingsworth

In memory of Tom Lopac
Ms. Bonnie Jean Paul
Ms. Kris Ann Moyer

In memory of Kim Sterne
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce C. Sterne
Ms. Darcy Sterne

Water in the garden symposium cosponsored by *Horticulture* magazine, DBG February 9

Join four of the nation's top gardening experts as they show you how to add water to your landscape. "Water in the Garden: Adding the Essential Element" introduces you to design, plants and garden style and is jointly presented by Denver Botanic Gardens and *Horticulture* magazine on Thursday, February 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall.

The symposium is planned for amateur gardeners, landscape designers, and nursery and garden center professionals who are interested in exploring the range of options that water elements bring to residential design, and in discovering the fascinating potential of plants in and around water features.

In "Design with Water" James van Sweden will explain how he and Wolfgang Oehme design, build and plant water features in a soft landscape style.

Isabelle C. Greene will explore classic and unconventional ways to bring the experience of water to Mediterranean-style gardens in "Wet Water – Dry Water."

Philip Watson teaches how to add water features to smaller gardens in "Water in Small Places."

Anita Nolan Nelson concludes the symposium by showing how to select and grow colorful and elegant aquatic plants in "Plants In and Beside Water."

Call the education department, 370-8020 or 370-8019, to register directly or with questions. The cost, including lunch, for this all-day program is $89 for DBG members, $99 for *Horticulture* magazine subscribers, $109 for nonmembers and $58 for students (does not include lunch) with proof of full-time status. Please indicate your choice of regular or vegetarian lunch with your registration.

Summer internships available in applied horticulture

The education department reminds students interested in applying for DBG's 1995 Summer Internship Program in Applied Horticulture that applications are due March 1.

The 10-week internship – this year June 5 to August 11 – offers students the opportunity to work alongside the Gardens' professional staff. Field trips, special projects and lectures round out the program that highlights Front Range horticulture.

Applicants must be enrolled in college programs (including graduate programs), and preference will be given to residents of or students in the states of Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

Inquiries for application requirements and materials should be directed to Paula Ogilvie, adult education specialist, 370-8041.

Free admission at Tier 1 institutions

Denver's cultural institutions will offer free admission for Colorado residents several days in February, thanks in part to funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District. This month's free admission days are:

- Denver Art Museum, every Saturday
- Denver Museum of Natural History, February 2
- Chatfield Arboretum, February 5
- Denver Zoo, February 27

Conner, White to head up '95 plant sale

Mary Ann Conner, last year's Plant and Used Book Sale cochairperson, has moved up to chairperson of the sale for 1995. Her cochairperson is Thomas J. White, who for years has headed up the vegetable division of the annual sale.

This is Conner's fourth year as a sale volunteer. Her skills as a tax accountant have proven invaluable to her organizational duties for the sale. Her love of horticulture is evidenced in her beautiful home garden. Conner is a Colorado native.

White came to Denver in 1972. He is affiliated with The Lincoln National Life Insurance Co. of Fort Wayne, Ind. He credits his love of gardening to his wife, but says now he is "hooked forever and can never imagine a time when I won't be planting and harvesting." White has been responsible for the explosion in the number of varieties of vegetable plants available at the DBG sale.

Wardell employee of the month

Nancy Wardell was selected as December's DBG employee of the month. Her enthusiastic supporters particularly mention her willingness to offer a hand with various events such as Goblins in the Gardens.

Working in the development office and for the Capital Campaign, she handles both jobs with great initiative, completing complex tasks punctually and efficiently. She is upbeat and enthusiastic with lots of good humor. Nancy deserves our congratulations as employee of the month.

Evergreen bearberry adaptable to Western gardens

The heath family (Ericaceae) is usually associated with cool, rainy climates where the sun rarely shines and soil is acidic, wet and full of humus. It's surprising that more than a dozen species grow in Colorado at all.

The most widespread and possibly best loved of these is kinnikinick, or bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*). Unlike its cousins, the bilberries, that grow in the cooler subalpine forests and lose their tiny leaves in winter, bearberries grow on hot, exposed slopes from near where mountains meet the Great Plains to the alpine zone. Some variation on *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* can be found in mountains throughout Europe, Siberia and Alaska, and the woodlands of Canada and even on the beaches of New England. Nowhere does it grow more abundantly than in our middle elevation mountains.

Everyone seems to have a favorite spot to visit bearberry in early spring: As with rhododendrons or winter heather, the flower buds form the previous autumn, opening in late winter when snow is still on the ground. The landscape still looks quite wintry, but a warm breeze brings promise of the summer to come. A few pasque flowers may be poking through the litter of pine needles, and the only other plant in bloom is the mountain pennycress (*Thlaspi montanum*).

You are apt to come upon a lustrous, leathery-leaved mat of kinnikinick spreading a yard or more over the decomposed granite. Despite sub-zero cold through the winter nights and sunny, crisp winter days the leaves stay as bright green and waxy as holly. The mat is usually peppered with berries – like dollhouse Jonathan apples. Some years plants can bloom so heavily that a white speckling of flowers is visible from a distance. They are best examined closely – clusters of waxy, vase-shaped white flowers less than half an inch long, with bright pink mouths. There are few other plants that bear flowers and berries simultaneously in the spring.

Westerners can hardly be blamed for wanting to plant some bearberry in their home gardens. Although this is one of our most abundant and widespread native plants, most of the clumps you see may be decades old.

Many local nurseries sell kinnikinick in a variety of pot sizes. Be aware, however, that even the most lush looking quart or gallon pot seems to take a while to settle in. Bearberry rewards patient gardeners – the third or fourth year after planting it you may even have a nicer mat of foliage than you can find in the wild. It seems to do best in well drained loam, thriving with a light mulch of gravel. It resents excessive fertilization and does best on gravelly soils and slopes in the garden, much as it does in nature.

If you establish a rich green mat of kinnikinick in your garden you will catch a whiff of springtime in the Rockies year around – and by all means inhale!

– Panayoti Kelaidis, curator
DBG Rock Alpine Garden

Chatfield dryland garden an

Part of the adventure of creating a dryland garden, plants. This can be a never-ending process as plants die

Here are a few plants which you should consider s den year-round beauty.

Early-spring bloomers

Townsendia exscapa	Easter daisy
Pulsatilla patens	pasque flower

Spring Bloomers

Penstemon strictus	stiff beardtongue
Penstemon pinifolius	pineleaf penstemon
Penstemon fruiticosus	shrubby penstemon
Zinnia grandiflora	

Midsummer Bloomers

Thelesperma filifolium	greenthread
Callirhoe involucrata	poppy mallow
Penstemon rostriflorus	
Oenothera macrocarpa	Ozark evening primrose

Fall Bloomers

Chrysothamnus nauseosus	rabbit brush
Liatris punctata	blazing star
Zauschneria californica	California fuchsia

Winter Texture and Color

Andropogon gerardii	big bluestem
Bouteloua gracilis	blue grama
Bouteloua curtipendula	side oats grama
Oryzopsis hymenoides	Indian ricegrass
Schizachyrium scoparium	little bluestem
Artemisia filifolia	sand sage
Mahonia repens	creeping Oregon grape
Yucca glauca	soapweed

ample of year-round beauty

h as the one at Chatfield Arboretum, is choosing the
d as you make changes through the years.
ing with. Most are long-lived and will give your gar-

low-growing; 1- to 3-inch white flowers
small 2-inch, light blue, cup-like flowers

purple flowers;
good winter texture
small red trumpet-shaped flowers;
evergreen foliage
small shrub with lavender flowers;
semi-evergreen foliage
low-growing; small yellow flowers
May through September

yellow flowers; reseeds;
low, rambling; wine-red flowers
red trumpet-like flowers
low-growing; lemon-yellow flowers

low shrub; yellow flowers
short stalks of light purple flowers
red trumpet-like flowers

tall prairie grass with outstanding color
short clumps; flag-like flower stalks
short clumps; reddish winter color
short clumps; airy flower stalks
medium size; purplish winter shades
low shrub; thin blue evergreen leaves
low-growing; wine-colored,
holly-like evergreen leaves
evergreen; distinctively Western look

– Chris Hartung, horticultural supervisor
Chatfield Arboretum

Return of natives brings year-round gardening adventure

If you have walked Denver Botanic Gardens in the winter you are aware it is something special. You are apt to have all 20 acres of the grounds to yourself. A certain satisfaction can be found in seeing the dormant clumps of perennials and the silhouettes of trees and shrubs – a winter kind of beauty. And once you find yourself in the native and naturalistic gardens at the west end of the grounds you will be surprised how rich and interesting our native landscape is in the winter season.

One characteristic of our semi-arid continental climate is the protracted season of plant growth and flowering. In the Eastern woodlands, practically all the herbaceous plants bloom within a few weeks in early spring. In the shortgrass prairie of Colorado *Townsendia* may begin blooming as early as February: A constant procession of flowers emerge thereafter, a new assortment of flowers blooming every few weeks, all the way in to late autumn with its wealth of composites in lavender and yellow. Even in the depths of winter the bold mounds of cacti, yuccas, rabbitbrush and grass stems create drama, color and interest.

The secret of gardening with native plants is to plan and plant for the entire year. Most native prairie plants are adapted to much less water than garden exotics. Although some native plants may tolerate more irrigation, most grow lax and flop onto the ground, losing much of their grace and beauty. When you design a native garden, it's best to choose a spot in your yard that approximates the kinds of soils and aspects you would like to copy in nature; a hot bank you have trouble watering or a parking strip that is always filled with weeds are candidates for growing native plants.

Soil preparation largely depends on the original state of your soil and the needs of the plants you wish to grow. Some native plants will thrive on anything your yard contains, short of asphalt or pure cement. And there are even some tough natives that may thrive in the cracks of a sidewalk.

It is more useful to combine and organize plants in your garden based on their foliage size and texture rather than flower color combinations. Few flowers bloom for more than a few weeks, but foliage is often present for the entire year. Bigger, coarser textured leaves look best closer to paths, where they help lend a false perspective to the scene.

When sketching a design on paper, remember that native plants rarely occur in the uniform clustered patterns usually employed with annuals or mixed borders. Wildflowers mingle in a salt-and-pepper pattern, more like a quilt or tapestry.

Collected plants often take more time to become reestablished in the garden than a seed or seedling. Also, collecting plants without permission from landowners or government agencies can be a crime with a stiff penalty. A mature landscape of natives may tolerate long periods of drought or abuse, but young seeds and seedlings need as much care, water and weeding as a conventional garden.

Many of our native plants have seldom or never been cultivated, so the art of natural gardening is really an adventure. What a paradox! As our local horticultural scene matures, sophisticated gardeners find their greatest pleasure in growing what has grown here all along.

– Panayoti Kelaidis, curator
DBG Rock Alpine Garden

Truffles found in Denver yard first in Colorado?

What may be the first scientifically supported discovery in Colorado of true truffles was made in a yard in east Denver this past year. The staff in DBG's Herbarium of Fungi reports it received its first specimens of the genus *Tuber* during the Colorado Mycological Society's annual Mushroom Fair in August.

During the winter, Vera Evenson, DBG's mycologist, and Karen Schoen, mycological assistant, are verifying and cataloging more than 700 examples of Rocky Mountain fungi collected in 1994, of which the unknown species of *Tuber* is by far the most exciting.

DBG mycologist Vera Evenson holds in her hand a potato shaped example of the unknown Tuber *species in the DBG Herbarium of Fungi. (Photo: Karen Ruth Evenson)*

The truffles were found by a Denver woman who submitted them to the fair for identification. Dr. Jack States, author of *Mushrooms and Truffles of the Southwest*, who was visiting DBG's herbarium from the University of Northern Arizona at the time, realized they were a rare, possibly new species.

The professional mycologists visited the woman's yard where they found another 15 to 20 truffles fruiting underground beneath aspen trees. Evenson speculates the potato-shaped fungi may have a micorrhizal relationship with aspen rootlets. Further investigation determined that the Denver fungus has a "very good truffle odor and a high degree of edibility," according to Evenson.

Although there are several species of truffles and of "false truffles" native to the United States (all edible), the most famous of these underground fungi are the black truffle of France and the Piedmont truffle of Italy – exotic, delicious and so rare and expensive they are called "black diamonds of the kitchen."

Truffles are harvested with the assistance of trained pigs or dogs, which, unlike humans, are able to discern, by smelling, when the fungi are perfectly ripe, even though the fruiting bodies may be up to two feet below the surface of the ground.

Tuber gibbosum grows in Oregon and is slightly garlic flavored. *Tuber milano* is being cultivated under filbert orchards in Texas. There are no known reports of truffles growing in the wild in Colorado.

Evenson and States will continue searching for records of the possibly new truffle in herbariums around the world and should be able to declare within a year or so whether the *Tuber* samples residing among DBG's more than 17,800 fungus specimens are members of a new-to-science species. If so, the samples will be known as the "type specimens," the ones from which the official scientific descriptions will be taken to announce the discovery of a new species.

Gorillas of Rwanda at natural history museum

Dr. Dieter Steklis, executive director of the Dian Fosse Fund, will speak at Denver Museum of Natural History Monday, February 27, at 7 p.m. about conserving the gorillas of Rwanda and their habitat in Africa. The lecture is part of the "Explore Our World" series of family events at DMNH, Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver Zoo and Denver Art Museum in cooperation with Continental Airlines. Tickets are $8. Call 322-7009 for reservations.

Mid-winter children's classes offered

Children can avoid the mid-winter doldrums by discovering the tropical rainforest or exploring the secretive world of carnivorous plants and animals.

"Rainforest Delights," for children in third to fifth grade, encourages students to meet animals and plants that live in rainforests around the world. Students will take home a miniature rainforest and create their own tropical animal. The course meets Saturdays, February 4 and 11, from 1-3 p.m. The first session takes place at the Gardens; the second session meets at the Denver Zoo.

For students in first to third grades, "The Carnivores" investigates how plants and animals catch and eat their food. Students will take home a mask and a "meat-eating puppet." The course meets Saturdays, February 25 and March 4, from 1-3 p.m. The first session is at DBG, the second at the Denver Zoo.

Cost for either course is $22 for members, $26 for nonmembers. Call 370-8020 to register.

Outdoor, arboretum naturalist guide courses begin March 14

You can delve into a new experience at Denver Botanic Gardens by joining its corps of volunteer guides. You can share your enthusiasm and knowledge of DBG's plants, gardens and natural areas with visitors of all ages as they learn about ecology, biodiversity, plant and animal adaptations and natural history.

Training for outdoor guides for 1005 York Street and Chatfield Arboretum naturalist guides begins at DBG March 14 at 8:30 a.m. Arboretum training continues Tuesday mornings through May 2; DBG outdoor guides meet Wednesday mornings March 22 through April 26. Staff and experienced guides will share their tour-leading skills and techniques and provide background information about each site.

Trained guides are asked to volunteer at least twice each month. For more information call 370-8020.

From your membership office:

Bring kids to 'Rainbow of Love' valentine event

Cupid is waiting for you just around the corner! You can make your Valentine's Day special by bringing your children ages 3 to 11 to the Gardens' John C. Mitchell II Hall Sunday, February 12, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Lindy Curry will tell Asian "Rainbow of Love" stories accompanied by her harp. Following the stories, everyone can make their own fancy valentines. Special valentine refreshments will be served.

Cost is $2 per person; children 3 and younger are free. Reservations are not necessary. Look for your "Rainbow of Love" valentine invitation in the mail. Call Amy Capra at 370-8021 for more information.

Boston spring flower show and Philadelphia harvest show free to DBG members

Two important garden shows in eastern United States will be free to Denver Botanic Gardens members in 1995.

The New England Spring Flower Show sponsored by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society will be held in Boston March 11 through 19. Call (617) 536-9280 for more information.

DBG members also will be given free admission to the Harvest Show of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society in Philadelphia September 16 and 17. For more information call (215) 625-8265.

If you are planning a visit to these areas around these dates, you will want to take advantage of this additional benefit of membership in the Gardens.

A Valentine for Book Lovers

$2 off

any book with $10 value or more with this coupon.

Denver Botanic Gardens Gift Shop
1005 York Street
331-4009

One coupon per purchase. No other discounts apply.
Expires February 28.

Give a year-long valentine to your love... a DBG membership

General Benefits for All Members

- Free admission to York Street and Chatfield facilities
- Green Thumb News and Mountain, Plain & Garden magazine
- Discounts on classes and field trips
- 10% discount at Gift Shop and at the Plant & Used Book Sale
- Early admission to the Plant & Used Book Sale
- Free plant upon joining and yearly plant dividend
- Borrowing privileges at Helen Fowler Library

❑ The Gardener – $25 – One card admits member; One guest pass.
❑ The Landscaper – $35 – One card admits member and guest; Two guest passes.
❑ The Arbor Circle – $50 – Two cards, each card admits three; Greenhouse tours; Four guest passes.
❑ The Botanist Club – $120 – Two cards, each card admits three; Merchant discounts; Greenhouse tours; A breakfast in the Gardens; 10 guest passes.

Senior Member Dividend—Members 65 or older at any level of membership may ask for another guest pass each time they use their card to enter the Gardens!

With each gift we will send two special magnetic picture frames and a packet of Forget-Me-Not seeds as an introductory bonus.

Please send a gift membership to:

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Questions or to order by phone call 370-8029.

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February

Coming Up: Classes are in italics. An * indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For course information see DBG's winter *Education Programs* or call 370-8020.

February

1 *Herbal Soap*
4 ** Winter Tree Identification*
Growing Plants Under Lights
Beginning Beekeeping
Rainforest Delights (for grades 3-5)
Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
Gloxinia, Gesneriad Growers meeting
American Iris Society judges workshop
5 **Birds & Berries: Landscaping for Wildlife*
Easy, Colorful Gardens
6 *Care & Handling of Cut Flowers*
7 **Beginning Watercolor Painting — Introduction to Landscapes I*
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting
9 Symposium: Water in the Garden: Adding the Essential Element
Denver Rose Society meeting
11 *Herbal Creations Workshop*
Rocky Mountain Regional Judging Center orchid judging
12 "Rainbows of Love," a children's event — for members only
Bromeliad Workshop
Herb Topiaries for Valentine's Day
Cacti & Other Succulents for Beginners
14 *Seduction and Passion in the Garden*
Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting
15 Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Rock Garden Society meeting
Artful Swag
18 ** Easy Orchid*
** Propagation Workshop*
Understanding Front Range Soils I
19 *Cooking with Judith Fine-Sarchielli: Delightful Delicacies*
Mile High Daylily Society board meeting
20 *Practical Perennials*
21 ** Landscape Horticulture*
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting
22 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture: Jim Wilson, "Herbs for Beautiful Landscapes"
23 ** Intermediate Bonsai: Maple Grove*
Rocky Mountain African Violet Council meeting
Ikebana International Denver Chapter meeting
25 ** Carnivores (for grades 3-5)*
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society workshop
26 ** Vegetable Garden*
Behind-the-Scenes Greenhouse Tour II
27 ** Basics of Organic Gardening*
Ultra Violet Club meeting
28 Volunteer Guide Recruitment Open House Party — *free!*

March

1 *Perennial Borders: Making the Most of Color*
2 ** From Cuts to Creations I*
Volunteer Guide Recruitment Open House Party at Chatfield Arboretum — *free!*
4 *How to Train Your Grapevine*
Heather and Lavender Wreath
Gloxinia, Gesneriad Growers meeting
Free Day at Chatfield Arboretum
6 ** Residential Landscape Design*
7 ** Botanical Illustration, Mixed Media I & II*
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting
8 ** Beginning Gardener*
Cooking with Herbs
9 ** Beyond Phalaenopsis*
Renovating the Landscape for Lower Maintenance
Denver Rose Society meeting
11 Denver Rose Society Symposium
Western Dryland Perennials
Understanding Front Range Soils II
Rocky Mountain African Violet Council meeting
Rocky Mountain Regional Judging Center orchid judging
12 *Your First Water Garden: Small Containers*
13 Colorado Mycological Society meeting
14 ** Naturalist Guide Training at Chatfield Arboretum*
** Outdoor Guide Training*
Dwarf Shrubs and Groundcovers for Colorado Gardens
Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society meeting

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Three open houses to attract new volunteers

Are you curious about volunteer opportunities as a tour guide at the Gardens? You are invited to join DBG staff and volunteers February 28, March 2 or April 20 to ask questions, meet experienced tour guides and enjoy light refreshments. Each session is at a different location, and information about all five guiding programs will be covered. Volunteers are given the opportunity to guide outdoors at DBG, in the conservatory, at Chatfield Arboretum, in the sensory garden or at the Morrison Center for preschoolers.

The open house events are free, but pre-registration is required. Call 370-8020. Bring a friend and discover the fun and excitement of joining DBG's volunteer corps.

Green Thumb News
Denver Botanic Gardens
March 1995

Topiary lecture offers whimsical look at gardening

Horticulturalist Patricia Riley Hammer introduces you to "Topiary: A World of Whimsy in the Garden" at the second 1995 Bonfils-Stanton lecture Wednesday, March 22.

The art of topiary — tying, trimming, shaping and training plants into living sculpture — is ancient, yet became known only recently to millions of moviegoers who marveled at Edward Scissorhands. Large topiary displays can be found at Longwood Gardens near Philadelphia, and Cypress Gardens and Disney World in Florida.

Hammer formerly grew and created many of Longwood Gardens' superb topiary creations featured in yearly holiday displays. Her creations range from 6-foot rabbits to a life-sized Dorothy and Toto of *The Wizard of Oz.*

Hammer's slide lecture will cover the classic topiary in England and around the world, the history of topiary in the United States, and how topiary is being used today. She will give a brief overview of how to make preformed portable topiaries and will show many exciting examples of this modern-day horticultural art.

A resurgence of interest in topiary has prompted articles in magazines like *HG*, *Sunset* and *Victoria* featuring these imaginative works, and businesses like Smith & Hawken now sell topiaries. Many small topiary forms will be available at DBG's annual Plant and Used Book Sale May 12 and 13.

Hammer wrote *The New Topiary*, a behind-the-scenes look at how these fascinating plant sculptures are created. She is the owner of Samia Rose Topiary in Encinitas, Calif., and has served as president and board member of American Ivy Society.

Lectures are at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Call the education department, 370-8020 or 370-8019, to register or for more information. Lectures are $7 for DBG members, $10 for nonmembers. Helen Fowler Library will remain open 5 to 7 p.m. on lecture evenings. DBG's Gift Shop carries books by guest speakers, and they will autograph your purchases after their lecture.

Inside this issue:

Poster art selected for this year's Plant and Used Book Sale.
– page 4

Heirloom vegetable growing can be an exciting hobby.
– page 5

Birdhouse makers invited to enter a contest.
– page 8

From the executive director

Many of our members have commented on recent changes in the style and appearance of *Green Thumb News* that were introduced in our February edition. Thus far, the response to these changes has been very positive.

A recently completed survey of our members shows that nearly 70 percent feel our monthly newsletter is a major benefit of membership, and that it is a well-read and much-valued publication.

The recent changes are aimed at making it even more useful and more focused on our members' interests. We plan to include more plant-related articles and more information on gardening in the Rocky Mountain and High Plains region. We want you to know more about our important research activities and the excellent educational opportunities available at your Gardens.

We intend to present more news and information about our members, the community organizations that support our activities, our volunteers and our myriad programs, especially the marvelous programs for members and their families. We have increased the size of the type to make it more readable, and we have expanded our calendar of events at York Street and Chatfield Arboretum and included the dates of plant society meetings to keep you better informed in a more timely fashion.

Our goal is to make this publication one that serves our readers' interests, and we welcome your suggestions. If you have recommendations for articles or comments about the publication, please write to me or to Molly Williams, our director of membership and development. You can be certain that we will carefully consider your views.

— Richard H. Daley

Du-Wald Steel a corporate friend of the Gardens

A mutual interest in environmental issues prompted Du-Wald Steel Corporation's partnership with Denver Botanic Gardens in 1993. Serving Denver's industrial community for more than 50 years, Du-Wald has grown to be one of the largest industrial scrap metal processors in the country, setting an example of awareness and concern for the environment.

Du-Wald converts scrap metal into usable product for steel mills and foundries across the nation—more than 75,000 tons annually. It specializes in demolition, containerization and plant clean-up of some of Denver's most recognizable companies, including Public Service, Samsonite and the City and County of Denver.

Du-Wald Steel Corporation recognizes the importance of the Gardens to the community, and DBG is proud to count Du-Wald as a corporate member.

Upper level members

DBG is pleased to welcome the new and renewing "upper level" members who joined the Gardens October through December 1994.

Botanist Club Members

Dr. & Mrs. Norman O. Aarestad
Mrs. Sarah J. Aavang & Mr. Harold Q. Aavang
Mr. & Mrs. Cyrus G. Allen Jr.
Ms. Nancy Allen-Key
Mr. & Mrs. David L. Alsager
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Ms. Tracy D. Baynes
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Mrs. Joan Clayton
Ms. Anne W. Close
Ms. Judith Coover & Mr. James G. Banman
Mr. Robert Cox
Mr. David S. Creager & Mrs. Lynne E. Creager
Mr. Jozsef G. Cseh
Dr. & Mrs. Scott K. Cunningham
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald T. Davis
Mr. Wayne Dennis
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Donner Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Downing
Mr. James K. Downs
Dr. Hazel B. Draper
Mr. Kevin Edwardson
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Fassett
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Ms. Loretta Griego
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Hait
Mr. & Mrs. Lester Hartley
Ms. Karan Haynes
Mrs. Elizabeth Heacock
Ms. Sherry A. Heater
Ms. Pamala G. Heath
Mr. Bob Heberton & Mr. Teri Crook
Mr. & Mrs. Randal E. Heinz
Mrs. Sheila Hiner
Ms. Elaine C. Hodges
Mr. & Mrs. John J. Hollberg
Mrs. Janice Howes & Mr. Richard Howes
Ms. Nancy Ireland
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Jennings
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Johnston
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Jones
Dr. Nancy E. Joy
Mrs. Doris Kaehler
Mrs. Kathryn Kawakami
Mr. & Mrs. Richard F. Koehn
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Mrs. Terri Konrad & Mr. Peter Konrad
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Larkin
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& Ms. Andrea Hantscheruk

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Mr. & Mrs. Richard Elsner
Mr. & Mrs. Anson Garnsey
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Dr. & Mrs. Jack O. Stoffel
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Strear
Mr. Augustus R. Van Stauffenburg

Perennial Partners

Mrs. Joyce Foster
Mr. Ed Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen McDonald

Tributes

In memory of Else J. Burger
Roy & Tari Burger

In memory of Chris Fjelstul
Tom & Cynthia Langan

In memory of Kathleen Gray
Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Daley
Mr. & Mrs. Donald J. Kany

In memory of Thomas Michael Lopac
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Mayer
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas R. Paul
Ms. Ann Karlberg
Ms. Sue Weinstein

In memory of Eileen Price's sister-in-law
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Kornfeld

In memory of Kim Sterne
Bruce & Mary Sterne
Darcy Chase Sterne

In memory of Mary Secrest
Master Sgt. & Mrs. James Hightower

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Daley
Mr. C. Perry Bascom

Free days at Denver's cultural institutions in March

Denver's major cultural institutions will offer free admission to Colorado residents in March, thanks, in part, to funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District:

- DBG's Chatfield Arboretum, Saturday, March 4
- Denver Museum of Natural History, Sunday, March 12
- Denver Zoo, Tuesday, March 21
- Denver Art Museum, every Saturday

A complete schedule of Denver's Tier 1 cultural institution free days through 1995 is available at the information desk in DBG's lobby.

Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs plans gardening classes

The Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs will hold gardening classes March 14 to 16 at Denver Botanic Gardens and at 1556 Emerson St.

Subjects will be plant growth, small greenhouse and plant room culture, pruning techniques, classifying plants and growing flowers outdoors. Also, tours of Denver Botanic Gardens will be given.

1994 corporate members

DBG is pleased to recognize the 1994 corporate members who supported our programs throughout the year.

Applewood Seed Company
Birdsall & Company
Bouquets
Cooley Gravel Company
The Denver Post
Dixon Paper Company
Du-Wald Steel Corporation
Englewood Garden Center
First Federal Bank
Gates Corporation
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Johnston Wells Group
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OEA Inc.
Samsonite Corporation
Security Life
Swingle Tree Company
Toyota Motor Company
Wilhelm Tree & Lawncare

Registration is $32 for all three days or $18 per day. Classes meet 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 429-2730 or 699-6144 for information.

Book review

Lovejoy, Sharon. *Hollyhock Days* Interweave Press, Loveland, CO, 1994. $14.95

Sharon Lovejoy delights in gardening and has a fascination with nature and a love for sharing her enthusiasm with others, particularly children. *Hollyhock Days* is a mixture of folklore, imagination, imagery, science stories and inspiration. Whether your garden is a large hillside or just a windowsill, there is something in Lovejoy's compilation to encourage, motivate or entertain.

Simple hands-on projects will have you washing with a squash, tickling sunflowers and even creating a living chair. Beautiful illustrations, quotes and poems surround the text's step-by-step instructions. Explore *Hollyhock Days* and share the magic of gardening with a child you know.

— Geri Warfield
Youth Education Specialist

Early athletics explored at Museum of Natural History

Dr. Nicholas Helmuth will discuss "The Ballgame of MesoAmerica" at Denver Museum of Natural History Monday, March 27, at 7 p.m. He will explore the roles in ancient societies of athletes, their equipment, ball courts and games. The lecture is part of the "Explore Our World" series of family events at DMNH, Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver Zoo and Denver Art Museum presented in cooperation with Continental Airlines. Tickets are $8. Call 322-7009 for reservations.

Employee of the month

Mark Humble, horticulture supervisor, is the January employee of the month. Mark was recognized for his excellent leadership, especially during the installation of "Blossoms of Light.", Mark has done a great job to keeping the horticulture staff organized while being extremely diplomatic and cooperative with volunteers, vendors and other supervisors.

We applaud you, Mark!

'Preparation' selected for Plant Sale poster

"Preparation" by Mario Waller was selected as the 1995 DBG Plant and Used Book Sale poster.

The 18-inch by 24-inch acrylic painting depicts an early morning view of the inside of a shed. On the floor are waiting plants and a bag of fertilizer; on the wall are gardening tools. Through the door is an expanse of yellow, strangely mysterious sunlight.

"As a graphic designer by profession, and the creative restraints it sometimes holds, I have recently returned to painting for a more creative extension of my art. My painting has been described as realism with surreal undertones," says Waller.

Waller has exhibited at the Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce's fifth annual "ArtFest," at the Steamboat Springs Arts Council's "SummerArt '94" and at the AurorArts '93 "Festival of the Arts" in Aurora. "Preparation" was a top-40 finalist in last year's DBG Plant Sale Fine Art Poster Contest and was displayed at Savageau Gallery.

Waller, who resides in Aurora, is the president of Aurora Arts and Humanities Council and a member of Aurora Cultural Affairs Commission and Aurora Chamber Business for the Arts Committee. He is art director at The Harrison Company Inc., an Aurora marketing firm.

Waller's painting was chosen from more than 250 entries of all media. Judges were Dick Kreck, columnist for *The Denver Post*; Allison Sundine, graphic artist at Denver Museum of Natural History; and Jocelyn Childs, landscape architect and DBG trustee.

Decorator posters and T-shirts with the "Preparation" image will be sold at the Plant and Used Book Sale May 12 and 13 and in the DBG Gift Shop.

Rose symposium focuses on basics

The annual symposium by the Denver Rose Society will be Saturday, March 11.

Speakers will be focusing on this year's theme: "Back to the Basics in Rose Growing." Regional rose growing experts will be on hand to answer questions.

The symposium will be in John C. Mitchell II Hall, 1005 York St., from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information call 422-5905.

Orchids you can grow at home

Not all orchids are the pampered hothouse plants people think they are. Some can be grown easily on windowsills, as long as they don't receive direct sunlight; sheer curtains can provide some protection. Following is a short list of orchids amenable for home growing.

Brassavola nodosa, lady-of-the-night, is a compact plant with fragrant greenish-yellow or white flowers that grows in seasonally dry areas of Central America and northern South America. Provide southern exposure and moderate moisture.

Haemaria discolor (sometimes known as *Ludisia discolor*), gold-lace orchid, is native to tropical Asia and produces spikes of small white flowers. Unlike most orchids it has beautiful leaves — olive green with red veins and undersides. Provide eastern exposure and keep the potting substrate moist.

Paphiopedilum sukhakulii is one of the popular lady-slipper orchids. Native to Thailand, its flowers are a combination of green and white striped dorsal sepal, heavily maroon spotted lateral petals and maroon pouch. Provide eastern exposure and moderate moisture.

Phalaenopsis lueddemanniana, known as the moth orchid, has small waxy white flowers with transverse magenta-purple bars; it is native to the Philippine Islands. It often produces new plants ("kikis") along the flower stem. Provide eastern exposure and moderate moisture.

Phragmipedium sedenii, another lady-slipper orchid, is noteworthy for its long sepals which are ivory-white with a rose blush. It is a primary hybrid between *P. longiflorum* and *P. schlimii*. Provide eastern exposure and moderate moisture.

The temperature in most homes — about 70-75° F during the day and 60-65° F at night — is suitable for these plants. A drop of about 10° F at night usually is necessary to initiate bloom. A pebble tray containing water can be used to provide humidity; be sure the water level does not contact the pot.

For more information about these and other orchids to grow in your home, visit Helen Fowler Library at Denver Botanic Gardens.

— Peggy Brown
DBG Horticulturist

Heirloom vegetables exciting to collect and consume

Growing and discovering heirloom vegetables can be a fulfilling hobby. If you want to grow unique plants in your garden, you will find many curious old vegetable varieties whose modern day offspring are quite different from their ancestors. For example, Black Spanish is an old radish variety that is very large; and some heirloom tomato varieties are oddly shaped and are green, yellow, orange, white or purple.

You may also want to grow heirloom vegetables to help perpetuate an old tradition of saving seeds and passing them on to others. By joining seed exchanges or buying and growing heirlooms, you will be helping to save many old varieties from extinction and maintain a part of our horticultural biodiversity.

The practice of saving seeds nearly disappeared during this century but has recently been rekindled by small seed companies and organizations who need the help of consumers to ensure the continuation of this trend. Publicly funded organizations do not have adequate resources to ensure the preservation of our food crops.

If you're only interested in growing vegetables to eat, you will find that many of the old varieties are superior tasting to newer hybrids. This is particularly true of tomatoes, many modern varieties of which have been bred for superior appearance and shipping characteristics. Not all heirlooms will be superior in taste, nor will they all grow better in your garden. In fact, modern hybrids often are very resistant to specific diseases. But with good cultural practices such as crop rotations and cleaning garden debris up in the fall, you should not have problems growing heirlooms.

One of the best ways to select heirlooms to grow for food is to find out if your local nursery or seed companies have been offering any, or to visit local living history museums. Heirloom vegetables can be seen in Denver Botanic Gardens' pre-Columbian gardens and the garden of Southwest Native American peoples; at Chatfield Arboretum's historic farm; Littleton Historical Museum; and Four Mile Historic Park.

Visit DBG's Helen Fowler Library for additional information on heirloom vegetables or to peruse the library's extensive seed catalog collection.

Following are some heirloom vegetable varieties that perform well in the Denver area.

Kentucky Wonder pole bean
Scarlet Runner pole bean
Wakefield cabbage
Nantes carrot
Golden Bantam corn
Stowell's Evergreen corn
Lemon cucumber
Black Beauty eggplant
Black Seeded Simpson lettuce
Rattlesnake melon
Rocky Ford melon
Red Weathersfie onion
Giant Italian parsley
Arledge Hot chile pepper
Small Sugar pumpkin
Connecticut Field pumpkin
French Breakfast radish
Brandywine tomato
Early Detroit tomato

— Chris Hartung
Chatfield Arboretum Supervisor

Society to display African violets

The African violet spring show and sale is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, March 18 and 19, in Denver Botanic Gardens' John C. Mitchell II Hall.

The theme of this year's show sponsored by the Rocky Mountain African Violet Council is "Our Violet Scrapbook." The show and sale runs from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday. Admission to the show is included in DBG's entrance fee (free to members). For more information call 482-7486.

Plant and Used Book Sale Posters

25% off

previous years' posters — values from $15 to $25
offer expires March 31
Sorry – this offer good only for previous years' collectors items, not for 1995 poster.
Denver Botanic Gardens Gift Shop • 1005 York Street • 331-4009

Early Plant Sale shopping, gift certificates among member benefits

With spring planting season just around the corner, it's time to start planning for the 46th annual Denver Botanic Gardens Plant and Used Book Sale Friday and Saturday, May 12 and 13.

Members are encouraged to avoid the crowds and shop early, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. each day. Bring your membership card and get in line early for this pleasant shopping experience. The sale opens at 10 a.m. to the general public.

Gift certificates are available for purchase now and can be used on plants, books or merchandise at the sale. You can stop by DBG's Carriage House at 909 York Street or call 370-8076 for more information. Gift certificates can be purchased in any amount and make great presents for all those eager gardeners you know.

Additional parking at Cherry Creek Inn, Colorado Boulevard and Cherry Creek Drive South, and Jimmy's Grill, 320 S. Birch, will provide plenty of room for shoppers. Free buses will run approximately every 40 minutes between the parking lots and DBG.

Complete information on the sale will appear in April's *Green Thumb News*.

Winter-weary gardeners wanted

Anxious for spring? Can't wait to get your fingers in the dirt?

Come join other eager gardeners who are getting an early start on the season. They'll be digging and potting up perennials for the Garden Grown Division of the Denver Botanic Gardens Plant and Used Book Sale. They will meet every Tuesday and Thursday morning April 4 to May 9.

Call Marilyn Moore, 388-6934, or Pat Miller, 232-6465, for information.

Plant society contact names

For information on the societies that meet or have shows and sales at Denver Botanic Gardens contact the following.

African Violet Society of Denver, Chapter 1
Nelly Levine
(303)423-6072

American Iris Society
Mike Moller
(719)598-2024

ARGS, Rocky Mountain Chapter
Marilyn Raff
(303)979-9192

Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society
Bob Vick
(303)293-1240

Colorado Mycological Society
Robert Monks
(303)399-2070

Colorado Native Plant Society
Jeff Dawson
(303)740-2793

Colorado Water Garden Society
Nancy Jewett
(303)671-7964

Denver Orchid Society
Jim Flor
(303)733-1879

Denver Rose Society
Carolyn Fylling
(303)422-5905

Gardeners of America, Denver Chapter
Tom Grace
(303)757-8900

Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers
Ingrid Little
(303)751-3199

High Country Judges Workshop
Albert Stancliff
(303)841-4082

Ikebana International, Chapter 66
Margaret Rayl
(303)850-7461

Mile High Daylily Society
Sabine Baur
(303)755-1108

Rocky Mountain African Violet Council
Norah Otto
(303)492-2915

Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society
Alan Hills
(303)422-3783

Rocky Mountain Orchid Judging Region
Bill Hayward
(303)455-1977

Ultra Violet Club
Robert Johnson
(303)424-3887

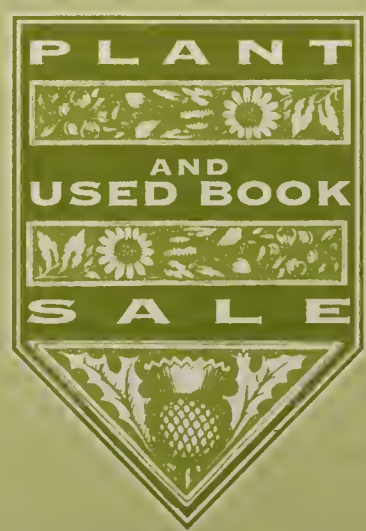
Cacti and succulents shown at the Gardens

Thousands of cacti and succulents will be on display and for sale Saturday and Sunday, March 25 and 26, in John C. Mitchell II Hall.

The Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society's annual show and sale promises an exciting diversity of cacti and succulents from the common to the very exotic, big and small. Winter hardy plants for outdoor landscaping will be among the featured plants, and experts will be on hand to answer your questions.

Plants will be judged; if you have plants you would like to enter, bring them to Mitchell Hall Friday afternoon or evening. Educational displays and free mini-workshops will round out the weekend's activities. You can learn about plant culture, pest control and succulents. Books, hats, T-shirts, potting soil, containers and fertilizer will be on sale, and there will be hourly door prize drawings.

For more information call Bob Vick, 697-0954.



Plant and Used Book Sale Volunteers Needed

Call 331-4011

From your membership office

One of the less obvious benefits of becoming a Denver Botanic Gardens member is that you can meet people whose interests are similar to your own, sparking your enthusiasm to learn more about gardening or branching out in your gardening efforts to become more of an expert.

Another benefit is the opportunity to participate in DBG projects by volunteering. Volunteer opportunities draw on diverse talents possessed by members, their families and friends. Not only are library, gift shop and office jobs available, but the Gardens also is looking for people with shop skills, such as painting and building.

Call the volunteer office, 370-8049, for more information.

December's 'Blossoms' attracted thousands

December's unseasonably warm weather and some spectacular new lighting vignettes attracted more people than ever to Denver Botanic Gardens' "Blossoms of Light" celebration.

Attendance figures were up nearly 68 percent for the three-week winter festival. All four Teddy Bear Teas sold out this year, leaving hundreds of children and their Teddy bears with smiles on their faces. Wind Machine, Lannie Garret and Pan Jumbies played to sell-out crowds as well.

Without the help of hundreds of volunteers, the festival would not have been a success. DBG thanks its sponsors KMGH-TV Colorado's 7 and Foley's for their invaluable support of the event.

Outdoor and naturalist guide training begins

Are you interested in learning and sharing information about Denver Botanic Gardens' outdoor plants, or the natural environment at Chatfield Arboretum?

If so, you are invited to bring your enthusiasm and curiosity Tuesday, March 14, to the first session of the outdoor and naturalist guide training programs. The introductory class meets 8:30 a.m. to noon at DBG.

After the first session, outdoor and naturalist guide classes have specific schedules. Please review DBG's current Education Programs catalog or call 370-8020 for more information on class dates, registration and fees.

Fall in Seattle

A Denver Botanic Gardens tour September 13-17

Join us for a fall visit to Seattle, one of America's most livable cities — famous for its views of snow-capped mountains, evergreen forests and extensive stretches of salt or fresh water. The Pacific Northwest is a horticultural hotspot, thanks to a unique climate that accommodates the growing requirements of a worldwide range of temperate zone plants.

Itinerary highlights

•Bloedel Reserve on Bainbridge Island — a vast landscape of garden rooms established in the heart of a Pacific Northwest forest.

•The horticultural treasures of Washington Park Arboretum and the elegant Japanese Garden.

•Two of Seattle's most beautiful private gardens.

•Narrated boat tour on Lake Washington, cruising past Seattle's homes of the rich and famous.

•Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection, Pacific Northwest Native Garden, and Lakewold, a magnificent garden estate in Tacoma.

•The Seattle Art Museum, with a guided tour focusing on its Northwest Coast native American collection.

•Lake Washington Ship Canal tour to see the busy waterfront activity of barges and luxury yachts as they make their way through Ballard Locks, the salmon ladders viewed through underwater fish-viewing windows, the Carl S. English Botanical Garden.

•Four nights at the centrally located Inn at the Market, a small luxury hotel situated next to the justly famous Pike Place Market, which has more than seven acres of fresh produce, fish and meat stands, Northwest arts and crafts booths and innumerable boutiques and shops.

•Free time to shop or explore on your own.

•Four lunches and two dinners, all offering Northwestern cuisine and wonderful views.

•Deluxe motorcoach transportation, all admissions and baggage handling. Local authorities, fully escorted throughout by Barbara Baldwin and Knobby Brown.

•A pre-departure party, and much more.

Space is limited to 24 persons. Cost is $625 for land arrangements based on double hotel occupancy ($242 single room supplement). Airfare will be ticketed at the lowest available rate. A $150 per person deposit will secure space in the order received. Final payment is due August 1. For more information, call Teresa Valdez, 370-8064.

Name(s)_____

_____

Address_____

City _____ State _____ Zip_____

Home Phone_____ Work Phone_____

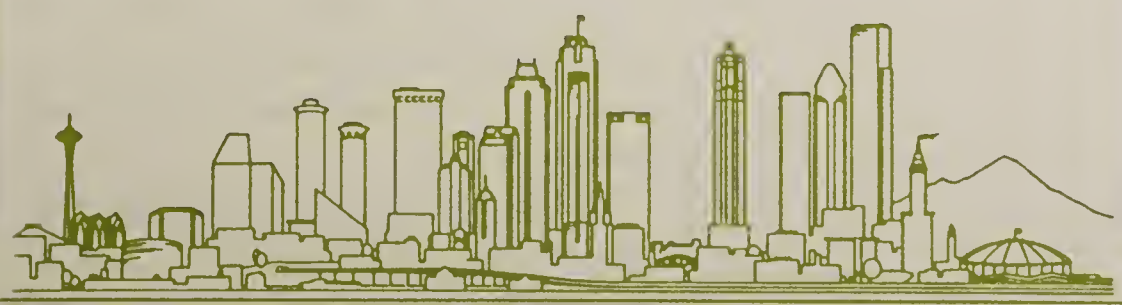
Single Room? ❑ Yes ❑ No

Enclosed is my check for $ _____ to Denver Botanic Gardens

Charge registration to ❑ VISA ❑ MC

_____ Exp._____

Signature _____



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March

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Coming Up: Classes are in italics. An * indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For course information see DBG's winter *Education Programs* or call 370-8020.

March

1 *Perennial Borders: Making the Most of Color*
2 ** From Cuts to Creations I*
Volunteer Guide Recruitment Open House Party at Chatfield Arboretum — free!
4 *How to Train Your Grapevine*
Heather and Lavender Wreath
Gloxinia, Gesneriad Growers meeting
Free Day at Chatfield Arboretum
6 ** Residential Landscape Design*
7 ** Botanical Illustration, Mixed Media I & II*
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting
8 ** Beginning Gardener*
Cooking with Herbs
9 ** Beyond Phalaenopsis*
Renovating the Landscape for Lower Maintenance
Denver Rose Society meeting
11 Denver Rose Society Symposium
Western Dryland Perennials
Understanding Front Rage Soils II
Rocky Mountain African Violet Council meeting
Rocky Mountain Regional Judging Center orchid judging
12 *Your First Water Garden: Small Containers*
13 Colorado Mycological Society meeting
14 ** Naturalist Guide Training at Chatfield Arboretum*
** Outdoor Guide Training*
Dwarf Shrubs and Groundcovers for Colorado Gardens
Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society meeting
15 Rock Garden Society meeting
Growing Native Medicinal Herbs
16 *Winter Hardy Cacti & Succulents for Colorado Gardens*
18 ** Principles of Pruning*
18, 19 Rocky Mountain African Violet Council Spring Show & Sale
19 Mile High Daylily Society meeting
Behind-the Scenes Greenhouse Tour II
20 *Springtime Centerpiece*
21 *Pinning Down Penstemons*
** The Rose Garden*
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting
22 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture: Patricia Riley Hammer, "Topiary: A World of Whimsy in the Garden"
** Outdoor Guide Training*
23 ** Intermediate-Advanced Bonsai: On the Rocks*
** Western Perennial Border*
African Violet Society of Denver meeting
Ikebana International, Denver Chapter meeting
25 ** Applied Plant Taxonomy*
Art of Tracking
Native and Medicinal Plants
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society workshop
25, 26 Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
26 ** Water Gardening for Beginners*
Cooking with Judith Fine-Sarchielli: Pasta Pairs
27 Ultra Violet Club meeting
29 *Herbs that Grow into Gifts*

April

1 ** From Angelica to Yarrow: Basics of Growing Herbs*
Eucalyptus Wreath
Free Day at Chatfield Arboretum
3 *Gourmet Herbed Oils & Vinegars*
4 *Phlox Fire*
6 *Selecting Perfect Bedding Plants*
Spring Wall Plaque
7 ** Beginning Watercolor Painting – Introduction to Landscapes II*
8, 9 Denver Orchid Society Show
10 Colorado Mycological Society meeting
11 *Growing Strong in a Long-Term Care Facility*
12 *Designing Your Herb Garden*
** Never-Fail Perennials*
13 *Flying Flowers: A Butterfly Garden*
15 Rocky Mountain Chapter, American Rock Garden Society Alpine Plant Sale

DBG announces Birdhaus Competition

Denver Botanic Gardens invites architects, landscape architects, designers, carpenters, ornithologists, artists, students, children and art classes to enter its Birdhaus Competition to be displayed July 14 to 30. Entries must be birdhouses or bird feeders that can hang from a tree branch, be mounted to an outdoor pedestal, be placed on an indoor pedestal or table or stand unsupported. The structures can be any material.

Birdhouses and bird feeders will be judged on originality, craftsmanship, functionality, humor and whimsy. The most outstanding entry will receive $1,000. Other citations and awards will be given in an adult and a 10-years-and-younger category. A people's choice award will be presented at the conclusion of the exhibit. All submissions become the property of Denver Botanic Gardens and will be auctioned or sold to benefit the Gardens.

Registration deadline is Tuesday, May 23. All entries must be received by Thursday, June 29. Judging will be July 13, and the public is invited to view the show through July 30. For more information or a registration form call 370-8055.

Green Thumb News

Denver Botanic Gardens April 1995

Annual Plant and Book Sale better than ever

It's time to prepare your plots and pots for the treasures you'll find at DBG's annual Plant and Book Sale May 12 and 13. More than a quarter-million plants and tens of thousands of books await shoppers at this 46th annual event.

The traditional sale signals to Denver gardeners that the spring planting season has officially arrived. New and unusual plants will be available in many divisions, as well as the tried and trues from years past. In addition, experts will be on-hand to answer all your gardening questions.

Thousands of new and used books, videocassettes and magazines will be for sale in the classrooms. You'll be able to find something on gardening, travel, cooking, religion, personal growth, poetry, adventure and romance. Proceeds are used exclusively to buy new books for the botanic and horticultural collections in Helen Fowler Library. Book donations still are needed for the sale. Drop your used books off at Helen Fowler Library, or call 370-8014 for more information.

More conveniences this year

This year, the York Street and Cheesman Park gates will be entrances only. Cashier locations will be at the south and north gates, with additional registers to expedite check-out. A limited number of grocery carts will be available again this year to carry selections around the Gardens, so shoppers are encouraged to bring their own wagons.

Members can shop early

Members may use their DBG membership cards to enter early Friday and Saturday to shop from 8:30 to 10 a.m. — and avoid the public crowds. Physically challenged persons also are invited to shop early. The sale opens to the public at 10 a.m. Show your membership card at check-out and you will receive 10 percent off the price of your purchases.

The sale's Preview Party Thursday, May 11, 5 to 8 p.m., will offer the earliest opportunity for plant lovers to browse and buy plants. Le Petit Gourmet will furnish an international buffet and cash bar, and Marvin Feldman and the Mile High Jazz Band will provide musical entertainment. A silent auction will include this year's fine art poster contest winner, the acrylic painting "Preparation" by Mario Waller. Check the preview party invitation in this month's newsletter, and reserve your place now for this special spring party.

Use free parking and shuttles

For added convenience, DBG has reserved two off-site parking lots for sale shoppers and volunteers: Cherry Creek Inn at Cherry Creek Drive South and Colorado Blvd., and Jimmy's Grill at 320 S. Birch St. A double-decker bus will whisk you from the sale and back from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. After shopping you can leave your large purchases with DBG plant valets, return to your car by bus, drive up to the curb and let the valets load your plants and books for you.

Don't forget to check out this year's plant sale poster and T-shirt. The image is from an acrylic painting that depicts an early morning view of the inside of a shed, with plants and a bag of fertilizer waiting on the floor. Artist Mario Waller will be on-hand to sign posters throughout the day.

(See related stories throughout this Green Thumb News *for some exciting new offerings at this year's sale.)*

Expert on new plants to talk on perennials April 26

It's not often average home gardeners get the opportunity to hear a speaker long-revered by the professional "green industry" as an authority on horticultural innovation. Denver Botanic Gardens' outstanding Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series will offer Colorado gardeners such an opportunity when Allan M. Armitage talks Wednesday, April 26, on "Perennials for the Faint of Heart."

When he defines perennials as plants that "had they lived, would bloom year after year" Armitage reveals much of his lecturing style.

Continued on page 3

Inside this issue:

Two horticultural therapy meetings will highlight DBG in April.

– page 2

Four traditional perennials fit right into "water-smart" gardens.

– page 4

Attend a free open house to see how you can help others enjoy the Gardens and its plants.

– page 6

Members are invited to enjoy the wildflowers and sights around Aspen this summer.

– page 7

SECURITY LIFE
ING GROUP

Security Life a corporate friend of the Gardens

Security Life of Denver Insurance Company, a part of the Internationale Nederlanden Group, the world's third largest diversified financial services organization, recognizes the importance of maintaining strong ties to the local community. One way of maintaining those ties is through its contributions program, which focuses on the areas of education, health, wellness and the environment. Through this program, Security Life has been a supporter of Denver Botanic Gardens since 1982.

DBG is fortunate to count Security Life of Denver among its corporate supporters.

From the executive director

Two organizations with national membership will meet in Denver this month, in further recognition of DBG's pioneering Horticultural Therapy Program and of our award-winning Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center.

The annual conference of the American Occupational Therapy Association will attract some 5,000 professionals to the city April 8 to 12. Occupational therapy is a primary focus of the training efforts of DBG's Horticultural Therapy Program. Its practitioners improve the daily living activities, motor skills and, especially, vocational capacities of people who have been ill or injured, have psychosocial or developmental disabilities or are old.

Then, April 28 to 30 the board and the executive committee of the American Horticultural Therapy Association, of which DBG Horticultural Therapist Rebecca Haller is president, will meet here at the Morrison Center. The association works to place people with disabilities in horticultural jobs, underwrites the enhancement of existing horticultural therapy programs and establishes and recognizes "enabling garden programs" such as the one at the Morrison Center.

The Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center, built with assistance from the Morrison Trust, has been awarded for its "barrier-free" design and its imaginative spaces created for gardening by people with various disabilities. As this month's national attention attests, DBG members can be proud of the center and the programs it supports.

– Richard H. Daley

Free admission at Denver's major SCFD cultural institutions

Denver's four Tier 1 cultural institutions offer free admission for Colorado residents throughout the year, thanks in part to funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District. This month's free days are:

- Chatfield Arboretum, Saturday, April 1
- Denver Museum of Natural History, Saturday, April 22
- Denver Art Museum, every Saturday.

Chatfield Arboretum offers free admission the first Saturday of every month through 1995. Denver Botanic Gardens' free times will be every Sunday morning from June 4 through Sept. 4, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. A complete 1995 schedule of free days at Denver's Tier 1 cultural institutions is available in DBG's Lobby Court.

Japanese flower exhibit at the Gardens April 22 & 23

Dozens of Japanese flower arrangements in four stylistic schools, each using different artistic techniques, will be exhibited at the Gardens the weekend of April 22 and 23. The annual spring flower show by members of Ikebana International's Denver chapter is called "Oriental Floral Splendor."

Ikebana International is an organization founded shortly after World War II to encourage understanding between citizens of Japan and America and to foster an appreciation of the two nations' cultures.

The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. It is included in DBG's standard admission fees. For more information call show chairman Fran Wittgartner, 688-6723.

Employee of the month

Sandy Snyder, DBG horticulturist II in the Rock Alpine Garden, was selected by her co-workers as February employee of the month.

Sandy is a dedicated professional horticulturist who brings good humor, enthusiasm and expertise to all she does. She has worked at DBG for 15 years and is active in many amateur and professional societies locally and nationally. She is an eager promoter of DBG and loves to contribute in any way she can. Congratulations, Sandy.

Tributes

In memory of Doug Brisson
David R. Hultgren
Jean E. Freeman
Arlene & Marvin Nelson
Colleen & Dwight Osborn
Joy Riske
Harry & Mary Shiba
Richard & Kay Swanson

In memory of John Falkenberg
Lori Livingston

In memory of Daniel Gallery
Lori Livingston

In memory of Kathleen Gray
Mr. & Mrs. Donald J. Kany

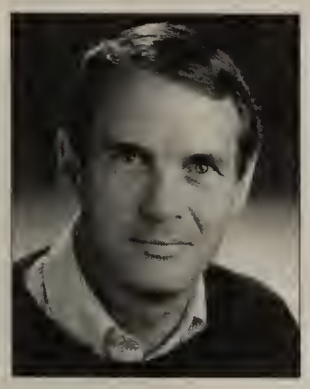
In memory of Elizabeth
"Betty" Hawkins
Mr. & Mrs. Saul N. Axelrad

In memory of Ruth Ann Kofoed
Morning Belles Garden Club

In memory of Mary Secrest
Ms. E. Syd Glick

Green Thumb News
April 1995
Published monthly by the Marketing and Special Events Department of Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206
Editor: Larry Latta, 370-8033
Deadline for June issue: April 17
Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum are established and maintained by Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc., for the people of the City and County of Denver and for the general public in cooperation with the Denver Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Botanic Gardens is also grateful for funds from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which enable the Gardens to expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Continued from page 1



Armitage has received numerous awards for research in commercial bedding plant and cut flower production and for his achievement in horticultural education. He is responsible for the evaluation and introduction of many plants for the gardening public.

On the education scene he has consulted for the *Magic School Bus* series of science books for children and he is an advisor to the Garden Book Club of America. He has written books for both amateurs and professionals, winning the Golden Trowel Award of the Garden Writers Association of America for his book *Allan Armitage on Perennials.*

His slide lecture at DBG will cover not only the newest plants in nurseries' perennial lines but older "blue collar" standards and annuals as well.

The lecture will be presented twice, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. at 1005 York St. Tickets are $7 ($10 for nonmembers). For more information or to register call 370-8020.

DBG's Helen Fowler Library will remain open until 7 p.m. on the night of the lecture, and the DBG Gift Shop, which carries some of Armitage's books, will remain open the night of the lecture. Armitage will autograph books after his lecture.

The lecture is one in a series supported by the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation, which has assisted the Gardens since 1987 in bringing to Denver audiences nationally known lecturers on botany, horticulture, the floral arts and conservation.

Orchid society to perform spring 'magic' at Gardens

The Denver Orchid Society will perform some "magic" at DBG when it presents its spring show Saturday and Sunday, April 8 and 9. Members will mount elaborate displays of hundreds of blooming orchid plants in tribute to the theme "The Magic of Orchids." Also, moderately priced orchid plants, most in full bloom, will be for sale.

The displays – chiefly by amateurs who grow their plants not only in greenhouses but under lights and at windowsills, in living rooms and basements – offer a good look at the many kinds of orchids that can be beautifully grown here. Accomplished growers will be on hand to share their experiences and advise visitors how they, too, can begin an orchid growing hobby.

The show is included in DBG's standard admission fees. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Call show chairman Janet Bullecks for more information: 987-9070, evenings.

Conifer collection forms heart of new DBG display

Worldwide, only a handful of dedicated conifer fanatics regularly comb the forests in search of unusual growths or "brooms" on pines, firs and spruces. The portion of a tree thus affected is collected for propagation, and after many years of "growing on" to determine the stability of each specimen's unique growth habit, a few are selected for introduction to the nursery trade.

Jerry Morris, former owner of Rocky Mountain Tree Experts in Denver and long-time supporter of DBG, is one such fanatic.

In 1993 and '94 DBG received several dwarf conifers from Morris's collection that comprise the heart of a new conifer display at the Gardens. Presently the plants are informally grouped on the dry berm near the far southwest end of the Lilac Garden. While not the ideal location for dwarf conifers, due to the strong exposure to sun and wind, it will be a test of the hardiness of these specimens.

The planting will be completed this spring with the reorganization of the smaller specimens and the addition of low-creeping junipers, mat-forming broad leaved evergreens and colorful perennials to visually tie the design to the Wingsong Garden across the path to the south.

New phone at Gardens for society meeting updates

Hundreds of plant society members gather at the Gardens each month for their regular business and educational meetings. To better serve them, DBG has installed a special "meeting update" line that will provide recorded information about changes in location or time of their meetings.

Societies are urged to call Allyson Eccles, 370-8012, to report any changes they foresee in their meetings so the recording can be kept current. Society presidents are urged to share this number with their members so they can call it to make sure their meeting is on schedule: 370-8097.

Members to receive summer concert information in mail

At press time for this *Green Thumb News,* decisions had not been finalized on Denver Botanic Gardens annual Summer Concert Series.

As members are aware, several changes have been requested in the Gardens' concert format. The DBG trustees and executive director have been meeting with all parties involved to implement a solution consistent with the horticultural and educational goals of the Gardens.

Members will be notified this month by mail when the summer's concert activities have been determined.

World's hottest pepper leads vegetables

True to its reputation, DBG's annual Plant and Book Sale will offer unusual plants to perk up even the most jaded palates. Plants of the Red Savina Habanero, recently accepted into the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the hottest chile known, will be for sale in the Vegetable Division at this year's Plant and Book Sale. The wrinkled, Chinese-lantern shaped fruit is even hotter than the orange habanero. Its incendiary flesh has a fiery fruitiness that creates an intense burn in the back of the mouth. This pepper is marvelous for salsas, soups, pastas and marinades. An enormous variety of other pepper plants also will be for sale.

Also, you will find several interesting tomatoes — some bearing 4-inch or larger fruits, some bearing tomatoes so tiny that five to 10 fit in a spoon. Look for plants bearing interestingly shaped cucumbers, eggplants and cabbage heads. Stop by the Vegetable Division to check out more exciting new vegetables.

Traditional perennials for 'water-smart' gardens

When designing a "water-smart" landscape it is not necessary to throw out your favorite traditional perennials. Bearded irises, daylilies, peonies and oriental poppies are excellent examples of perennials that, if grown properly (often, ignoring them works as well), can be wonderful water-smart plants.

If you look at the landscapes and alleyways in older neighborhoods, you will find beautiful specimens and, sometimes, naturalized groups of these four old standbys. The secret to their success in Colorado's diverse and ever-changing climate is their adaptability to less than ideal growing conditions. All have evolved large fleshy underground stems or roots that store nutrients and water, and all are successful in a variety of soils. These sensible features help the perennial beauties combat Colorado's intense dry summers and "on-again, off-again" winters.

Bearded irises

With their impressive blade-like blue-green foliage and rainbow array of flowers, bearded irises are "musts" for the perennial garden. The incredible blossoms of the bearded irises (*Iris germanica* hybrids) appear in great abundance in late spring and are available in an amazing range of colors, patterns and combinations.

In flower, these plants can be 8 to 36 inches tall, depending on the variety. It is best to stick with older "tried and true" varieties if toughness is an issue. Bearded irises actively grow in spring until shortly after they bloom, again about four to six weeks later and through the fall.

Their dormant period, mid-June through July, usually coincides with Colorado's hottest, driest season. Water should be decreased while they are dormant and applied at the rate of 1 inch every seven to 10 days during active growth.

A few DBG favorites are 'Vanity', an incredible, pale, true-pink, with reasonable ruffles and lovely branching; 'Stepping Out', a deep-purple and white combination with beautifully defined petal edges; 'White Christmas', with stunning, white standards and falls and flaming orange-red beards; and 'Victoria Falls', the best blue flower of any traditional perennial.

Daylilies

Found in great abundance on deserted lots, daylilies *(Hemerocallis* hybrids and species) can brighten your landscape from mid-June through most of August. During the past hundred years or so, dedicated hybridizers have extended the color range to include almost-white through every imaginable shade of yellow, orange and red. The best varieties bloom over a long period and have well-branched flower scapes that hold the flowers well above the grass-like leaves.

Unlike bearded irises, daylilies have no dormant period. They require 1 inch of water every seven to 10 days and benefit from a 2-inch application of mulch. Since each daylily flower lasts only one day it is best to use drip irrigation or water at the end of the day so the flowers can be enjoyed without damage from overhead irrigation. Consistent soil moisture is the key to successful, insect free daylilies.

A few DBG favorites are 'Corky', one of the smaller hybrids, with proportionately small purple flowers; 'Homeward Bound', which has lovely, large, peach blossoms above a medium-height plant; 'Mary Todd', which shows off heavy-textured medium-yellow flowers for weeks; and 'Malachi', with rich burgundy flowers on a tall, graceful plant.

Peonies

Peonies (*Paeonia lactiflora* cultivars) have great garden appeal throughout the growing season. Late spring brings impressive bouquets of large single to fully double 4-inch to 6-inch flowers in white, red and every shade of pink imaginable. Their rich green compound leaves beautifully offset the finer textures of many summer flowering perennials. Many varieties also have attractive fall foliage.

Peonies are content with 1 inch of water every seven to 10 days. They prefer less frequent but thorough deep watering to reach the roots which are typically 3 to 6 inches below the surface.

Among DBG's favorites for this region are 'Lotus Queen', with large single pale-pink flowers that stand up to the weather well; 'Pink Jazz', which displays fully double, vibrantly pink blossoms that stand out in a mixed planting; and 'Krinkled White', which has semi-double, crinkled white petals on a vigorous plant.

Oriental poppies

Naturalized fields of these lively, late-spring bloomers can be found wherever our gardening ancestors settled. The large, papery, bright-to-pastel flowers bloom in late spring in white, red and many vibrant shades of orange and pink. It is best to interplant poppies with later-emerging perennials because the ferny foliage looks ratty (if it doesn't disappear altogether) by July.

The long, straight, thick roots of poppies are designed to absorb moisture from deep in the soil; infrequent, deep watering is the key to long-lived poppies in a water-smart landscape.

A few *Papaver orientale* cultivars that perform well in Colorado are 'Helen Elizabeth', a gorgeous salmon-pink with very stiff, upright petals that withstand wind and overhead irrigation; 'White Field Marshall', with luminous, white petals and large blue-black center; 'Prince of Orange', a floriferous poppy with screaming, bright orange flowers; and 'Doubloon', with large, open-form, crimson-red flowers that show off their blue-black centers well.

-Joann Narverud
Manager, Outside Horticulture

[DBG's Plant and Book Sale will offer traditional and unusual perennials for your water-smart garden. – Ed.]

Xeriscape Division offers 'Gardens in a Box'

The Xeriscape Division will offer Plant and Book Sale shoppers a choice of three "Gardens in a Box" at this year's sale.

These kits take the worry out of garden design by providing a planting plan and all the necessary plants to fill it with colors that best suit your landscape. "Hot Tamale" will combine reds, golds and oranges. "The Crown Jewels" blends purples and blues. An entire rainbow of colors is offered by "The Colorful Croissant."

Knowledgeable volunteers will answer your xeriscape questions, so stop by and see how you can be water-wise and garden-gorgeous at the same time.

DBG horticulturists recommend 10 woody plants

Shrubs

Serviceberry

Also called shadblows (*Amelanchier canadensis*), these adaptable 8- to 10-foot tall shrubs are covered with one-half-inch white blossoms by the last week of April. The fruits are reddish-purple, sweet and make excellent jellies.

Saucer magnolia

Saucer magnolias (*Magnolia* x *soulangiana*) perform surprisingly well in this area when they are given a protected site on the south or east side of a building. Huge saucer-shaped pink and white flowers adorn these 12-foot shrubs in May.

Star magnolia

Stunning 4-inch star-shaped white flowers ornament the star magnolia (*Magnolia stellata*) shrubs.

'Fritz Nobis' rose

In mid-May these old garden roses (*Rosa* 'Fritz Nobis') sport large, soft coral-colored double flowers above disease resistant foliage.

Trees

Redbud

Redbuds (*Cercis canadensis*) bear thousands of small bright pink flowers before their leaves appear each spring. Their spreading growth habit can be a problem after early or late snows; however, careful thinning in late summer will prevent breakage.

Fringe tree

When the fringe trees (*Chionanthus virginicus*) create their splendid early-spring display of white flowers in loose 6-inch long panicles, the 20-foot trees look like they are covered with bright white fringe. The flowers are followed by grapelike clusters of blue berries that attract a variety of birds.

Russian hawthorne

Elegant Russian hawthorns (*Crataegus ambigua*) reach their maximum height of 12 to 15 feet in only a few years. They become a cloud of brilliant white blossoms in early May. As a bonus, the trees form long-lasting clusters of bright red fruit in late summer.

Toba hawthorne

Tough little trees with double, fragrant, deep rose flowers in early May, the maximum height for the Toba hawthornes (*Crataegus* x *mordensis* 'Toba') is 15 feet.

Bird cherry

Bird cherries (*Prunus padus*) are similar in growth habit to our native choke cherries. But with their drooping 5-inch racemes of half-inch white flowers, they are more conspicuous landscape specimens. The flowers are followed by small black cherries.

Apricot tree

Apricot trees (*Prunus armeniaca*) are among the earliest to blossom each spring. Their flowers are pinkish and appear before the foliage in mid- to late-April. Most years you can expect a bountiful harvest of edible fruit.

Above left and above: Serviceberry (Amelanchier canadensis)
Often overlooked by gardeners buying early-spring flowering shrubs, serviceberries grow well in nearly any good soil. They have a tendency to assume a multi-trunked form from the ground up, but can be tamed to a single short trunk with low branches that form an oval crown. Winter bark is a lovely rosy grey.

Annuals offer instant gardens

Ready or not, spring's around the corner. What better way to bring in the season than to start planting annuals?

Whether you're looking for "instant flowers" to fill out a new perennial bed or pots to adorn your patio, the Annuals Division of the sale will have an abundance of plants to choose from. In addition to the familiar favorites offered each year, there's plenty of new varieties and colors to whet your spring planting appetite.

Super-sized six packs ready to plant on your balcony or patio will be available. These jumbo annuals are designed especially for a short season climate, with flowers already in bloom. You can be assured you'll be purchasing plants with good root systems that are not root-bound.

Shop early for the best selection.

1995 Plant & Book Sale Wants you!

Looking for new volunteers.
No plant knowledge necessary,
no experience required.

May 11, 12 & 13
New volunteers call 331-4011

See how you can help others enjoy gardens at DBG April 20

If you enjoy not only the look but the sounds, smells and textures of plants and gardens – and if you have an enthusiams for helping others – you can attend a free open house for prospective volunteer guides for the Gardens' special sensory and preschool tours. These guided outings help people with some impaired senses enjoy the world through their unimpaired ones and give young children the opportunity to use their senses to explore the garden.

In 1994 DBG's award-winning tours gave preschoolers and more than 500 people from nursing homes and rehabilitation and therapy programs a revealing visit to the Gardens. You can be a part of this program – no previous experience is necessary. New volunteers are trained not only in guiding techniques but the plants and features of DBG's Sensory Garden where most of the tours take place. Training begins in May.

The introductory open house is in DBG's Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center at 2320 East 11th Ave. (between Josephine and York) from 9 to 11 a.m. Experienced guides and staff members will answer your questions, and you can enjoy light refreshments and explore DBG's Sensory Garden.

For more information or to register for the open house, please call 370-8020.

Garden Grown Division offers great deals

Savvy plant sale shoppers have long known that the Garden Grown Division (previously known as the "Garden Donations" Division) is the first place to stop for great prices and sure-to-succeed plants.

Local green-thumbed gardeners generously donate plants, and thousands of seedlings and divisions come from DBG's own beds and borders, dug and potted up by weather-hardy volunteers in the weeks prior to the sale.

If you would like to donate your own "garden grown" plants, you may leave potted divisions and seedlings inside the Gaylord Street service gate May 8 to 13. Please label the plants as completely as possible with common name, botanic name if known, color, height, bloom time, etc.

For more information call Marilyn Moore, 388-6934, or Pat Miller, 232-6564.

Gardening for Life workshop by DBG, National Jewish

Denver Botanic Gardens' horticultural therapy program and the National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine will host a workshop Monday, May 1, "Gardening for Life: How Professionals Use Gardening as a Tool to Improve Human Well-being."

Through lectures, discussion and hands-on experiences participants will discover how to implement horticultural therapy programs in vocational training, physical rehabilitation and psychosocial therapy programs.

Speakers are Martha Straus, HTM, Sheppard Pratt Hospital, Baltimore, Md.; Linda Ciccantelli, HTR, Magee Hospital, Philadelphia, Penn.; and David Hackenberry, HTR, Colorado Women's Correctional Facility.

Cost of the workshop, which will be held at National Jewish Hospital, 1400 Jackson St., is $60 for DBG members, $70 for nonmembers. A limited number of scholarships are available. For more information or to register call 370-8020, TDD 370-8032. Registration deadline is April 21.

ANOTHER BLOOMING PARTY!

Preview Party for the 46th Annual Denver Botanic Gardens Plant Sale

Thursday, May 11, 1995
5-8 p.m.
1005 York Street

$40 per person
($25 tax-deductible contribution)

Live Music by Marvin Feldman and The Mile High Jazz Band

International Buffet & Cash Bar Catered by Le Petit Gourmet

Silent Auction Including: "Preparation"
An original acrylic painting by Mario Waller

(Used books will not be available for sale)

Attire: casual

Please reserve _____ tickets at $40 each for Plant Sale Preview Party at Denver Botanic Gardens 1005 York Street.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Amount enclosed: $ _____

Please make check payable to and mail to:
Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, CO 80206

❑ I am unable to attend, but have enclosed my donation of $ _____

Reservations are due by May 8.
For more information call Catherine Dorn, 333-9437

From your membership office

Special gift for mom

Here's an idea for Mother's Day: You can give your mother a Denver Botanic Gardens membership — and we'll give her a coupon for a box of floral notecards from the wide selection of cards in the DBG Gift Shop (up to $3.25 value).

With her new $35 Landscaper membership your mom and a friend can come to the Gardens all through the year; if she's 65 or older, your gift will be only $25. To purchase a DBG membership over the phone with a credit card, call 370-8029. Or you can send payment and membership information to 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206.

Explore behind-the-scenes

Members at the Arbor Circle level and above are invited to a behind-the-scenes tour of DBG's production greenhouses on Tuesday, April 18. Tours will be at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. There will also be refreshments and musical entertainment. Space is limited, so reservations are required. Call 370-8021.

'Wild Tales' for children

Celebrate Earth Day with your children ages 3 to 11 at "Wild Tales for Earth Day" Saturday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to noon. They can share their imagination with storyteller John Stansfield as he tells some wild tales about wild animals and wilderness and people who visit it. Following the stories, Earth Day treats will be provided, and children will receive their very own plant to take home and care for.

Cost is $2 per person; for children 3 and younger it's free. Reservations are not necessary; you can pay at the door. Look for your "Wild Tales for Earth Day" invitation in the mail. For more information call 370-8021.

Looking?

We have the latest titles in gardening and nature books.

Now in stock:

The Progress of a Gardener

Barbara Hyde's second volume on Gardening in the Mountain West

Denver Botanic Gardens Gift Shop
For gardeners of growing distinction

Aspen Wildflowers and Gardens

A Denver Botanic Gardens Tour

July 14 - 17 Join fellow DBG members for the fourth annual Wildflower Tour. Aspen flowers will be at their peak in the mountains and gardens. You will see lots of them, along with Aspen's many outstanding attractions. The tour will be fully escorted by Barbara Baldwin and Knobby Brown.
Highlights of the trip are:

- Accommodations at the well-located Limelite Lodge
- Wildflower walks on Independence Pass and the Maroon Lake area
- Visits to outstanding private gardens
- Dinner and show at the famous Crystal Palace
- One dinner and one cocktail party in private homes
- All meals included except one dinner
- Transportation throughout the trip in a deluxe 32-passenger mini-coach
- Tour of Aspen Center for Environmental Studies and nature tour of Hallam Lake
- A free evening to enjoy the Aspen Music Festival or the many other attractions in Aspen
- Monday in Vail to tour Betty Ford Alpine Gardens, outstanding private gardens and a picnic beside Gore Creek
- Pre-departure educational evening

Space is strictly limited; reservations will be secured in the order deposits are received. The trip involves walking distances of a mile or more at high altitude on uneven terrain; participants must evaluate their physical condition accordingly.

Cost is $495 per person based on double occupancy, which includes a $25 tax-deductible, voluntary donation to DBG. Single-room supplement is $127. Deposit is $150 per person. Final payment is due June 9. For more information call Teresa Valdez, 370-8064, Barbara Baldwin, 783-0010 or Knobby Brown, 832-6175.

Please reserve _____ places for the Aspen Wildflower Tour.
Enclosed is my check for _____ ($150 per person) in deposit

Name(s) _____

Member ID _____

Address _____

City _____ St. _____ Zip _____

Telephone: Home _____ Business _____

Charge my reservation to ❑ Visa ❑ MC

_____ Exp. _____

Price is $495 per person based on double occupancy. Single-room supplement is $127. Final payment is due by June 9. Please make check payable to Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206 Attn: Teresa Valdez. Payments are refundable less a $25 administrative fee plus any unrecoverable costs.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206-3799
Address correction requested
TIME VALUE • April 1, 1995

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April

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Coming Up: Classes are in italics. An * indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For course information refer to DBG's winter Education Programs or 370-8020. For current DBG events information: 370-8187. For current plant and arts society meeting information: 370-8097.

April

1 * *From Angelica to Yarrow: Basics of Growing Herbs*
Eucalyptus Wreath
Free Day at Chatfield Arboretum
Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers meeting

2 *Chatfield Arboretum Tour*

3 *Gourmet Herbed Oils & Vinegars*

4 *Phlox Fire*
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

6 *Selecting Perfect Bedding Plants*
Spring Wall Plaque

7 * *Beginning Watercolor Painting – Introduction to Landscapes II*

8 Rocky Mountain Orchid judging

8, 9 Denver Orchid Society Show
Colorado Water Garden Society meeting
Mile High Daylily Society meeting

9 *Chatfield Arboretum Tour*

10 Colorado Mycological Society meeting
Glass Artist Fellowship meeting

11 *Growing Strong in a Long-Term Care Facility*
Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting

12 *Designing Your Herb Garden*
* *Never-Fail Perennials*

13 *Flying Flowers: A Butterfly Garden*

15 Rocky Mountain Chapter, American Rock Garden Society Alpine Plant Sale

16 *Chatfield Arboretum Tour*

18 *Graceful Grasses*
* *Advanced Botanical Illustration I & II*
Behind-the-Scenes Tour – for members at Arbor Circle level and above – free!
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

20 Volunteer Guide Recruitment Open House Party – free!

22 * *Romantic Roses*
Water Garden: Basic Pool Construction
* *From Cuts to Creations II*
Earth Day Picnic and Hike

22, 23 Ikebana International, Denver Chapter Show

23 *Chatfield Arboretum Tour*
Cooking with Judith Fine-Sarchielli: Vegetarian Spring Dinner

24 Ultra Violet Club meeting

25 *Annuals: Paint Your Landscape with Color*
Wild Gardener: Gardening for Backyard Wildlife
Colorado Native Plant Society meeting

26 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture: Allan M. Armitage, "Perennials for the Faint of Heart"

27 African Violet Society of Denver Chapter 1 meeting
Gardeners of America meeting

29 *Wet and Wild – Introductory Course to Wetlands*
Children's Event – for members only!
American Iris Society Region 20 meeting
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

30 *Chatfield Arboretum Tour*

May

2 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

5 * *Preschool Guide Training*
* *Sensory Tour Guide Training*

6 Free Day at Chatfield Arboretum
Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers meeting

7 *Chatfield Arboretum Tour*

8 Glass Artists Fellowship meeting

9 Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting

11 Plant & Used Book Sale Preview Party
Denver Rose Society meeting

12, 13 DBG Plant & Used Book Sale

Students from Horizon Middle School, Cherry Creek, interviewed Bonfils-Stanton speaker Jim Wilson for their school paper earlier this year. Pictured left to right: Chelsea Wells, Andrew Hitchcock, Erin Kelley, Jim Wilson and Erika Stager.

Celebrate Earth Day four ways at Denver culturals

Denver's major cultural institutions will celebrate Earth Day throughout the month of April: Saturday, April 22, at DBG's Chatfield Arboretum you can join the fully guided Earth Day Picnic and Hike to explore the area's flora and fauna. Cost is $6 ($8 for nonmembers). Call 370-8020 to reserve your place. Members can bring their children to the Gardens "Wild Tales for Earth Day" April 29 (see related story on page 7).

April 17, at the Denver Museum of Natural History, nature photographer John Fielder will present a slide show and lecture. April 22 the Denver Zoo will offer free admission to visitors who bring their household recyclable items. The museum's and zoo's programs are part of the "Explore Our World" series of family events presented by SCFD Tier I organizations in cooperation with Continental Airlines. For information on the DMNH program call 322-7009. At the zoo call 331-4110.

Green Thumb News

Denver Botanic Gardens

May 1995

Plant Sale signals Denver spring planting season is here

Denver Botanic Gardens' annual Plant and Book Sale is just around the corner, signaling to Denver gardeners that the spring planting season has officially arrived. Traditionally held the Friday and Saturday before Mother's Day, this year – its 46th – it will be May 12 and 13.

More than a quarter-million plants will be offered: new and unusual varieties and older, tried and true ones.

One thing Denverites have come to expect from this festive spring event – hard to find elsewhere – is the assistance of dozens of experts in every field of horticulture. Standing by at every booth of the sale, they will help even the most inexperienced of novice gardeners get off to a successful start with their new plant purchases.

Maps of the sale will be available at each entrance to the Gardens to help you locate just what you're looking for.

Use your membership benefits

Your DBG membership card will be especially handy at this year's sale. As a member you can enter the sale at 8:30 a.m.—one and one half hours before the general public. And while you're shopping, keep in mind that you'll save 10 percent off the price of your plant and book purchases by showing your card at check-out. Most importantly, though, you will be supporting DBG's largest fund-raiser and contributing to your Gardens' educational and horticultural programs.

Membership tables will be set up at the York Street and Cheesman Park entrance gates so, if you have friends who would like to join you in your early shopping, they can purchase a membership "at the door."

DBG is proud to have the *Rocky Mountain News* return as this year's print media sponsor. KVOD radio is this year's electronic sponsor.

Use free parking & handy shuttles

Because parking is limited at the Gardens, volunteers and shoppers should plan on parking for free at Cherry Creek Inn, Colorado Boulevard and Cherry Creek Drive South, or Jimmy's Grill, 320 S. Birch St. A free shuttle will ferry you from the lots to the sale and back approximately every 15 minutes from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The bus will conveniently drop off and pick up on York Street in front of the main entrance. Shoppers can leave their large purchases with DBG plant valets, return to their car by bus, drive up to the curb and let the valets load their plants and books for them.

Take a break from the sun and venture into Mitchell Hall in the Boettcher Education Center, where houseplants, orchids, bromeliads, cacti and succulents will be for sale. The DBG Gift Shop will offer gardening tools and supplies and a huge selection of new books, and the volunteers of Helen Fowler Library will be selling tens of thousands of used books, video cassettes and magazines at bargain prices downstairs in the classrooms.

Listen to KVOD, read the *Rocky Mountain News* or call DBG's special events line, 303-370-8187, for up-to-date information on this spectacular sale.

Preview in Larimer Square

Downtown workers will get a preview of the sale Friday, May 5, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Larimer Square's Noel Park, when Gardens staff members and volunteers will set up a promotional booth to sell a sampling of what will be available at the sale. Representative outdoor and indoor plants, T-shirts and posters will be offered to entice newcomers to the sale.

(Please see articles elsewhere in this issue for other plant sale highlights.)

Inside this issue:

Horticultural Therapy Program receives training grant.

– page 2

Volunteer opportunities for tour guides begin this month.

– page3

Learn how to attract hummingbirds to your garden.

– page 5

Take a family trip to Rocky Mountain National Park.

– page7

From the executive director

Biodiversity has become the by-word of world conservationists, but what, if anything, does biodiversity have to do with botanic gardens?

Since the first botanic gardens were established in Italy in the mid-16th century, they have been collecting, displaying and studying the rich plant diversity of the world. Here at Denver Botanic Gardens, we try to display for the public a representative sample of our global plant life, ranging from plants native to the tropics to those from mountain tops around the world.

Additionally we concentrate our efforts on plants native to the western United States. These plants are best seen at our York Street Xeriscape Demonstration Garden and at Chatfield Arboretum. This summer, we will unveil our new Water-Smart Garden outside the south side of the conservatory that will display many native western plants.

Our research efforts are directed toward understanding the biodiversity of the West. In particular, our work on endangered plants focuses on preserving and studying the rarest plants in the Rocky Mountain region; our study of fungi relates to those native to the west; our floristic studies for the herbarium concentrate on Colorado's diverse flora; and our program with Colorado State University called "Plant Select" looks at native plants of horticultural merit.

Botanic gardens worldwide grow only a fraction of the world's 300,000 kinds of flowering plants, some 75,000 of which are in peril of extinction. Our role in biodiversity is to illuminate the richness and importance of the plant world through living displays and programs; to focus our research efforts on our local flora; and, working with others, to help ensure that future generations inherit a natural world with all the richness of plants and animals possible so they can enjoy, learn from and use the environment as we have.

– Richard H. Daley

THE Great-West Life ASSURANCE COMPANY

Great West Life a corporate friend of the Gardens

Founded in North Dakota in 1906, Great West Life & Annuity Insurance Company is today a major insurer managing more than $19 billion across the U.S. and Canada.

Great West's strategy for the future includes expanding its products and services, distributing and servicing products such as mutual funds for other financial institutions and pursuing a satisfactory national health care reform policy. Great West also believes investing in the future includes investing in the communities in which it does business. Its "Key to Giving" program, in place since 1993, formalized the company's corporate giving policy and encourages staff volunteer efforts.

DBG has counted on Great West Life's support for the past 18 years and is proud to count the company as a corporate friend of the Gardens.

DBG's hort therapy program receives grant

Denver Botanic Gardens' horticultural therapy program recently was awarded one of two grants by the Center for Citizen Initiatives to train Russians in horticultural occupational therapy.

DBG received a $5,000 grant to train six to eight professionals from the Moscow Training Academy. The only other organization in the U.S. selected for the prestigious award was Melwood Horticultural Training Center near Washington, D.C.

Under the direction of DBG Horticultural Therapist Rebecca Haller, the funded program will provide horticultural therapy training specializing in using horticulture as a vocational training tool for people with disabilities. Haller is scheduled to travel to Moscow in early summer to develop a training curriculum. She will host the Russian therapists and implement the training over a two-week period at the Gardens this fall.

The goal of the program is to transfer ideas, information and techniques relative to horticultural therapy programming for people who have mental or physical disabilities. It will emphasize vocational training and placement, and will teach the Russians to acquire program funding and generate income so they can sustain their own programming in Moscow.

– Christine Kramer
Horticultural Therapy Assistant

Deer Creek Olde Tyme Days a trip into past

The Front Range Antique Power Association will present its fourth annual Deer Creek Olde Tyme Days at Chatfield Arboretum Saturday and Sunday, May 20 and 21.

You can take a walk back in time to the early 1900s for two days of living history and education. Antique cars, trucks, tractors and engines will be displayed. Other demonstrations include tractor pulling, field plowing, threshing and baling, bread making, corn meal grinding and converting wool into yarn. Food will be available.

If you are interested in being an exhibitor at the event, call Ann Baker, 303-681-2749.

The event is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. A parking fee of $3 per vehicle will be charged. Admission is free.

Green Thumb News
May 1995

Published monthly by the Marketing and Special Events Department of Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206

Editor: Larry Latta, 370-8033
Deadline for July issue: May 19

Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum are established and maintained by Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc., for the people of the City and County of Denver and for the general public in cooperation with the Denver Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Botanic Gardens is also grateful for funds from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which enable the Gardens to expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Dawson to head new research department

DBG research botanist Carol Dawson has been placed in charge of a newly created Research Department at the Gardens. Her promotion – and the new departmental status of botanical research – signals a surge in Denver Botanic Gardens' programatic emphasis on conservation of rare, threatened and endangered native Rocky Mountain plants, its promotion of a regionally defined horticultural ethic and eminence of DBG's vascular plant and fungus herbariums.

Dawson has headed DBG's rare and endangered plant research program on behalf of the Center for Plant Conservation since 1985. Her work includes identifying species of plants, finding their remnant colonies, studying their habitats and natural histories, collecting seeds and increasing their numbers through propagation. Some 25 species of these plants have been planted for public observation in DBG's Endangered Species Garden. Now Dawson will also assume supervision of DBG's Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium and its Herbarium of Fungi.

DBG Guild to hold recruitment open house

If you enjoy herb gardening and making herb vinegars, or cutting, drying and arranging flowers, you should consider becoming a member of the Denver Botanic Gardens Guild.

The Guild will hold an open house for prospective members Wednesday, May 17, at 10 a.m. in the DBG Herb Garden gazebo. Refreshments will be served, and Guild members will be on-hand to explain the herb garden they maintain and to answer questions about their organization.

Guild members begin working in the Gardens in April, then continue throughout the summer, planting and maintaining the herb garden and cutting and drying flowers. In the fall they get busy bottling vinegars and creating arrangements for DBG's November Holiday Sale. Throughout the winter they meet once a month for educational programs and luncheons.

If you are interested in joining the Guild but cannot attend the open house, please call Marion Nutt, 303-793-0949.

Employee of the month

Chuck Robinson, network coordinator, was DBG's March Employee of the Month. Chuck was commended for his outstanding work on repairing, upgrading and installing new computer systems. He's a part-timer that puts in a full eight-hour day with a pleasant attitude and smile.

Three cheers for Chuck.

Guide training for MHDC begins May 5

As a Sensory Garden Guide or Preschooler Tour Guide you can share the sights, sounds, textures and smells of the Sensory Garden at DBG's Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center this summer. Training for new guides begins Friday, May 5, at 8:30 a.m., with a combined session for both programs, then Sensory Garden Guides will continue training on Fridays, May 19, June 2 and 9, and Preschooler Tour Guides will train on Wednesdays, May 17 and 24.

To register for either, call 303-370-8020 or, if you have a hearing impairment, use the Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD), 303-370-8032.

Short course begins for future outdoor guides

If you are interested in learning and teaching more about the outdoor displays at Denver Botanic Gardens, you can participate in a fast-paced course to become a DBG Outdoor Tour Guide.

A two-session "Short Course for Guides" will be taught Saturday, May 6, from 8:30 a.m. to noon and Monday, May 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. Participants will learn specific information and practice tour techniques with other students to increase confidence in guiding.

Following this short course, outdoor guides will be expected to volunteer at least twice a month. Tours are offered on weekdays, weekends and occasional evenings for special events.

The short course is $15. To register call DBG's education office, 303-370-8020.

Denver Rose Society hosts national spring convention in June

The Denver Rose Society will host the American Rose Society Spring Convention and National Rose Show June 16 to 19 at the Stouffer Renaissance Denver Hotel.

Rose enthusiasts from around the world will bring roses for the show. Educational programs, a large trade show, a variety of rose garden and scenic mountain tours and two tours of Denver Botanic Gardens are planned throughout the five-day event. Outstanding national and international speakers will present programs, and top arrangers will inspire you to design with color and teach how to preserve your roses.

The show opens to the public Saturday, June 17, at 2 p.m. For more information or a complete schedule call Joan Truby, 303-421-9999.

Sale Containers Division offers plants – plus

At the Containers Division of the plant sale shoppers will find much more than plants.

Garden furniture and lawn accessories, usually available only in exclusive garden catalogs, will be for sale at half the price. Potting benches will be priced starting at just $100. Sitting benches, trellises, planters and exclusively designed stepping stones also will be for sale.

Lemon baskets of ivy, lemon verbena, lemon thyme and a frensham lemon ivy geranium will be finished off with a yellow bow. Various containers planted with new and hard to find annuals, perennials and herbs will make great Mother's Day gifts.

Your old favorites – steel garden sculptures, watering can fountains, statuaries, baskets and sundials – also will be for sale in the ontainers Division again this year.

Eastern edibles prove themselves good for Western gardens in '94 DBG vegetable displays

In 1994, the DBG horticulture staff planted its first Asian herb and vegetable garden in the Vegetable Demonstration Garden at the west end of the east-west pathway. During the growing season it became evident that most of the plants were as ornamental as they were edible.

All varieties were easy to grow; most thrived despite the numerous 90-plus degree days. Of the 60 or so varieties grown, some were particularly intriguing to Gardens visitors.

Tah Tsai Chinese cabbage (*Brassica rapa*), one of many Asian cabbages, is a beautiful plant. It may even turn up as a display border at DBG in the future. The plants are 8 inches tall and wide, with perfectly symmetrical rosettes of glossy, dark green leaves with white midribs. Its flavor is mild throughout the growing season and it can be used as a "green," fresh or wilted. Unlike the typical cool-loving Chinese cabbage, it doesn't bolt when the weather gets hot.

Mao Gwa fuzzy squash (*Benincasa hispida*), also called hairy melon, resembles a cucumber vine. The vigorous plants bear many cylindrical fruits covered with silky hairs. Fruits can be harvested when they are 4 to 10 inches long or across, depending on the variety. They can be sliced and stir fried or hollowed out and stuffed, much as zucchini is prepared. The flavor is distinctive but mild.

Cucuzzi edible gourd (*Lagenaria siceraria*), with its 4- to 5-foot long fruits, was the conversation piece of the Asian planting. Its long smooth fruits grow on 6-to 8-foot vines and should be harvested when they are 10 to 12 inches long, for best flavor. A few gourds were allowed to mature while dangling from the top of a trellis, and their size received many comments and speculation from DBG visitors.

Asian chile peppers (*Capiscum Annum*) are hot in flavor and are grown for use when fully ripe and dried. The chiChien and Szentesi pepper plants bore large thick fleshed fruits that wer tasty eaten raw or stir fried. Most Asian cultrures adopted these New World plants hundreds of years ago, making them an indispensable component of their cuisines

This year the display of unusual edibles will be expanded. You should look for Hmong eggplant (*Solanum integrifolium*), Japanese giant red mustard (*Brassica juncea*), Mizuni (*Brassica rapa* var. *japonica*) and green sweet melon in this fascinating garden.

Here are some sources of seed for Eastern edibles:

Shepherd's Garden Seeds
30 Irene St; Torrington, CT 06790

Stokes Seeds Inc.
Box 548; Buffalo, NY 14240-0548

Sunrise Enterprises
P.O. Box 1960; Chesterfield, VA 23832

For more information on these and other unusual plants, visit DBG's Helen Fowler Library.

—Joann Narverud
Grounds Supervisor

Kids' fall pansy planting project on display through 18th

During last year's "Fall Is for Gardening" event, children planted hundreds of pansies in the DBG Asian Vegetable Garden raised wood planters. Now the pansies are blooming. If you or your children participated in this planting, you're invited to come see the colorful, blooming display soon: It will be replaced May 18.

Last year's "Fall Is for Gardening" event included lectures, demonstrations, tours and children's activities. It was co-sponsored by the Gardens, Colorado Greenhouse Growers Association and Garden Centers of Colorado. Plants for the various children's activities were donated by Welby Gardens Company Inc., City Floral Company and Englewood Garden Center.

This year's "Fall Is for Gardening" will be September 16 and 17. Look for more information in the August *Green Thumb News*.

How to attract hummingbirds to your garden

Hummingbirds are among the most popular garden visitors. Although primarily enjoyed by mountain and foothills residents, these tiny birds often migrate through Front Range communities and have been spotted in the Denver metropolitan area.

It's easy to provide an alluring garden for hummingbirds since many of their favorite flowers thrive in our region. With a bit of planning, you can turn an ordinary garden into a hummingbird smorgasbord.

The hummingbird's long pointed beak has evolved to reach into tubular flowers: petunias, lupines, monarda penstemons, lobelias and nicotianas, campanulas, salvias, lilies, Indian paintbrush, snapdragons and columbines. Although some of these flowers are fragrant, this seems to have little to do with their appeal. Red or orange flowers are the hummingbird's passion, so plant as many varieties in the fiery hues as you can stand.

If you are planning a flower bed or border for hummingbirds consider plant height carefully. As with most flower bed designs, locate the shorter plants in front, the medium height plants behind them and the tallest in back. This is particularly important so you may observe the birds feeding without a plant obstructing your view.

Position species of different heights next to each other so there is adequate space for birds to hover around the flowers. Since hummingbirds are very territorial, plant duplicates of favorites in different locations so multiple birds may feed.

Flowering shrubs also lure hummingbirds. They favor honeysuckles and lilacs, two shrubs that will grow in almost any Colorado garden. Conifers provide a preferred nest site, so incorporate spruce or fir trees into your landscape if none are nearby.

To attract hummingbirds all summer, design your garden for a long season of bloom. Mix showy perennials with long-flowering annuals, including early and late season varieties.

You don't have to worry about luring the hummingbird too late in the season. Many who put out hummingbird feeders have the misconception that they must take the feeders down early in the fall season to encourage the bird's migration. But hummingbirds head for their winter homes in Central America while most of our gardens are still colorful with flowers.

– Ken Slump; Plant Records

Book review:

'Quest for the Rose' a photographic delight

Phillips, Roger and Martyn Rix, *The Quest for the Rose: The Most Highly Illustrated Historical Guide to Roses,* Random House, $35
SB411P4QU1993

The long title of this remarkable book reflects the scope within its covers. Serious rose lovers eager to expand their knowledge while relishing excellent color photographs of many unusual and rare roses will enjoy the orderly fashion in which the renowned authors examine the history and basic classes of the rose.

Those who simply enjoy curling up with a good book will enjoy the more than 1,000 photographs of individual blooms, sumptuous rose gardens from around the world and clearly labelled groupings of flowering branches.

The chapter recounting the authors' tour of China as they sought ancient ancestral wild roses and old hybrids from various emperors' palace gardens is a real treat. Photo-graphs depict proud Chinese peasants standing by magnificent unnamed climbers embellishing their homes; palace rose gardens; and remote valleys that are still home to the wild Chinese species that gave the world the gift of repeat-blooming roses.

The book combines with the many fine photographs an appreciation for the historical and cultural role of the rose, information about the many varieties of roses, insightful reviews of the lives and work of some of the more influential rose breeders, all in a clear, concise and immensely pleasurable manner. Look for this book at the Denver Botanic Gardens Gift Shop or Helen Fowler Library.

– John Starnes, Publisher
The Garden Doctor

Above are four roses not to be found in The Quest for the Rose. They're the newest of the new, roses that are not, even yet, on the market. After three years of widespread trials, All America Rose Selections, Inc., recommends these winners for introduction in 1996.

Counterclockwise from upper left, they are Livin' Easy, an orange-shot-with-scarlet floribunda; Carefree Delight, a floriforous pink shrub rose; Mt. Hood, a vigorous ivory-colored grandiflora; and St. Patrick, a lovely green-tinged-yellow hybrid tea.

DBG changes to summer hours & fees May 1

May 1 marks the start of summer hours and fees at Denver Botanic Gardens.

Through September 30, DBG's York Street Gardens will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays. Gates will close at 5 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

General admission for nonmembers during the summer is $4 for adults, $2 for visitors 65 and older, students with an ID and children ages 6 to 15. Children 5 and younger enter free.

Colorado residents can enjoy the Gardens free every Sunday morning June 4 through Sept. 3 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Chatfield Arboretum free days are the first Saturday of the month throughout the year – this month May 6.

Other free days at Denver's major cultural institutions this month are: Denver Art Museum, every Saturday; and Denver Museum of Natural History Monday, May 22. The four Tier 1 cultural institutions offer free admission for Colorado residents throughout the year, thanks in part to funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District.

For information on current events at the Gardens call 370-8187.

30 new herb plant varieties available at '95 Plant Sale

The Herb Division will sell 30 new varieties of herb plants at this year's Plant and Book Sale May 12 and 13.

Rubin basil, similar to opal basil, is brighter in color and makes an outstanding bedding plant. Cuban oregano, with its thick variegated green and white leaves and a spicy flavor, is great for growing in pots. Catmint is an excellent blue flowering border plant. Downy lavendar has gorgeous cut leaf silver foliage and beautiful flowers. This year's scented geranium selection includes varieties suitable for growing as topiaries.

Other new varieties will combine with the nearly 200 favorites from years' past to provide all your herb planting needs.

'Flowers & Art' a floral tribute to art masterpieces

Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver Art Museum and Garden Club of Denver will join for "Flowers & Art" June 8 to 11: floral interpretations of artworks in the museum galleries, and a luncheon-lecture by a prominent floral designer and arranging workshops at DBG.

The activities begin at Denver Art Museum with a preview party June 8, then the exhibit opens to the public June 9 to 11. Friday, DBG aquatic specialist Joe Tomocik will dazzle museum visitors with the art of designing, planting and maintaining aquatic containers. Then Saturday morning Panayoti Kelaidis, curator of DBG's Rock Alpine Garden, will show how to design, select plants for and plant an alpine trough.

Tutorials, lectures and other events designed to complement the exhibit are planned at Denver Botanic Gardens during the event. Complete information will be available in the June *Green Thumb News*, or you may call 303-640-5626.

"Mystery Is in the Air" and so are fragrances

Denver Botanic Gardens again has been chosen as the site for the Denver kick-off of National Fragrance Week celebrations. The theme for this year is "Mystery is in the Air," and the week's events will reflect the theme.

The inaugural event will celebrate fragrance and the fragrance industry with the presentation of the first annual Scent-Sational Denver awards. Colorado perfumers, manufacturers, advertisers, retailers and their customers will pay $50 each to attend the awards dinner at Mitchell Hall on June 2. Proceeds from the dinner will benefit the Denver Botanic Gardens Fragrance Garden.

The 1995 "Scent-Sational Denver" awards categories are Best Introduction, men's and women's; Best Packaging, men's and women's; Best Advertising, newspaper and magazine; and the People's Choice Award, men's and women's. The People's Choice Award will be determined by in-store balloting in May.

June 5 to 10 participating vendors will host product sampling and exhibits at DBG. Vendors will include The Broadway, Monday, June 5; Saks Fifth Avenue, Tuesday, June 6; Nicole Miller, Wednesday, June 7; JC Penney Thursday, June 8; and Joslins, Friday, June 9.

In addition, the participating vendors will be hosting in-store events throughout the week. The celebration winds up Saturday the 10th with a celebration of National Sense of Smell Day at the Children's Museum of Denver.

For more information call Scottie Taylor, Denver coordinator of National Fragrance Week, 303-489-2229.

First-quarter '95 Four Seasons members

Denver Botanic Gardens welcomes the following Four Seasons members who began or renewed their support during the first quarter of 1995. Four Seasons members provide annual leadership support of $1,000 or more. Their generosity is vital to the ongoing operation of the Gardens' research, education and horticulture programs.

Mr. & Mrs. Bjorn K. Borgen
Mrs. Samuel Butler Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Cleworth
Mr. & Mrs. James L. Cunningham
Mr. & Mrs. Walter C. Emery
Mr. & Mrs. Harley G. Higbie Jr.
Mr. Rodney L. Linafelter
Ms. Fay Shwayder
Mr. & Mrs. B.K. Sweeney
Mr. & Mrs. James B. Wallace
Ms. Molly C. Williams & Mr. John Williams

For information on how you can become a Four Seasons member to support the Gardens, please call Molly Williams, 303-370-8027.

Tributes

May

In memory of Doug Brisson
Eldon & Doris Hill
Dan Hill & Kristin Dittmann
Jim & Denise Atkinson and family
Deloney Riekens
Phyl Larson
Lori Daniel and family
The Gordon Craig family
Gail E. Neukom
Linda Kotowski
Lillian Barbour
Mr. & Mrs. William Quinn
Hazel Snippen
Thelma Hill
Gladys Adolphson
Linda Oswold
Dr. & Mrs. James R. Brisson

In memory of Tom Lopac
Jay & Sharla Fellers

From your membership office

Sign up now for breakfast and early morning tour May 20

Members at the Botanist Club level and above are invited to enjoy a continental breakfast in the Home Demonstration Garden Saturday, May 20, at 8 a.m. Following the breakfast, tours of the Gardens will be given by trained volunteers. For more information or to make reservations, please call 303-370-8021.

New member reception in the Rock Alpine Garden May 24

New members are invited to enjoy a reception in the Rock Alpine Garden Wednesday, May 24, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Panayoti Kelaidis, DBG's Rock Alpine Garden curator, and other garden staff members will guide tours and answer questions. Musical entertainment, wine and cheese will be provided. To make your reservation, please call the members' events office, 303-370-8021, by May 19.

Here's a special gift for mom

Remember: You can give your mother a Denver Botanic Gardens membership for Mother's Day — and she'll also receive a coupon for a box of floral notecards from the DBG Gift Shop (up to $3.25 value).

With her new $35 Landscaper membership your mom and a friend can come to the Gardens all through the year: If she's 65 or older, your gift will be only $25. To pay for a DBG membership over the phone with a credit card, call 303-370-8029. Or you can send payment and membership information to 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206.

New in the Gift Shop

Seeds • Plants

Environmentally friendly fertilizers
Hard-to-find tools

Denver Botanic Gardens Gift Shop
For Gardeners of Growing Distinction

Rocky Mountain National Park Family Weekend

Join other DBG families and enjoy a memorable nature adventure in beautiful Rocky Mountain National Park. Parents, grandparents and children can learn about the flora and fauna of the park, exploring from the tundra to the valleys with our own personal naturalist park ranger guide.

Highlights of the weekend are:

- Accommodations for two nights at the beautiful 860-acre YMCA of the Rockies in spacious lodge rooms with private bath
- All meals included from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch
- Friday evening introductory lecture and audio-visual presentation by Curt Buchholtz
- Bus transportation to all activities in Rocky Mountain National Park
- All admissions included. Fully escorted Saturday and Sunday in the park with personal naturalist park ranger guide
- Access to all the activities of the YMCA camp including complimentary indoor swimming, miniature golf, basketball and volleyball
- Drive your own car to the YMCA camp for check-in after 3 p.m. on Friday, August 25. Depart for home after lunch on Sunday, August 27

The minimum age requirement for this trip is 5 years. Space is strictly limited and reservations will be secured in the order in which a deposit of $75 per adult and $25 per child is received.

Prices reflect the YMCA of the Rockies charge per adult (16 years and older) based on the number of adults per room. Child prices (ages 5 to 15) are based on children sharing a room with their parents. The price includes all meals (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch), lodging, bus transportation for all scheduled activities in the RMNP area, guides, speakers, admissions and a $10 tax deductible voluntary donation to DBG.

- $218 per adult person based on one adult per room
- $160 per adult person based on two adults per room
- $142 per adult person based on three adults per room
- $74 per child sharing room with parents or guardian

(Example: two adults with one child, $394. One adult with two children, $366.)

Final payment is due June 10. For more information call Teresa Valdez, 303-370-8064, or Barbara Baldwin, 303-783-0010.

Please reserve _____ adult places and _____ child (ages 5 to 15) places for the family weekend.

❑ Enclosed is my check for ($75 deposit per adult, $25 per child)

Name(s) (Please include ages of children)

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____
Address

_____
City State zip

_____
Home Telephone Business Telephone

Charge my reservation to ❑ Visa ❑ MC _____/_____
Exp.

Please make check payable to Denver Botanic Gardens and mail with registration to 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206 Attn: Teresa Valdez. Payments are refundable less a $25 administrative fee plus any unrecoverable costs.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206-3799
Address correction requested
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May

May						
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June						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Coming Up: Classes are in italics. An * indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For **course information** refer to DBG's summer Education Programs or 303-370-8020. For **current DBG events information**: 303-370-8187. For current plant and arts **society meeting information**: 303-370-8097.

May

1 *Gardening for Life*
2 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting
3 *Gimme Shelter: Build Me a Birdhouse*
5 ** Preschool Guide Training*
** Sensory Tour Guide Training*
Wildflowers of the Plains
6 Free Day at Chatfield Arboretum
Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers meeting
7 *Chatfield Arboretum Tour*
Flora of the Foothills
Dawn Chorus
8 Glass Artists Fellowship meeting
9 Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting
11 Plant & Book Sale Preview Party
Denver Rose Society meeting
12, 13 DBG Plant & Book Sale
14 *Japanese Tea Ceremony*
16 *Fascinating Fungi*
17 DBG Guild Herb Garden open house
Terrific Tomatoes
Plant Identification for Beginners
18 ** Intermediate Bonsai: A Forest Scene*
20 Breakfast at York Street, for members at Botanist Club level and above – free!
All About Lavender
Container Gardens
Field Wildflower Taxonomy I
Japanese Tea Ceremony
20, 21 Deer Creek Olde Tyme Days at Chatfield Arboretum
21 *Backyard Composting*
Pawnee National Grasslands
Japanese Tea Ceremony
24 New Members' Party, for members only – free!
Wildflowers of the Foothill
Bats
25 ** Water-Smart Perennial Gardening*
Saving Plants from Extinction
26 *Ecology and Flora of North Table Mountain*
27 *New Herbs*
30 ** Basic Home Landscape Design*
31 *Container Herb Gardening*

June

3 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
Peony Passion
** Trough Garden Workshop*
Bird Walk for Beginners
3, 4 American Iris Society, Region 20, show
4 Free admission to DBG 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
5 ** Beginning Bonsai I*
** Perennials for Connoisseurs*
5-7 National Fragrance Week Celebration
6 ** Gardens with an Altitude*
** Zen of Botanical Illustration – Field Sketching*
7 Behind-the-Scenes Tour, for members at Arbor Circle level and above – free!
Clematis: The Queen of Vines
Backyard Bears
** Watercolor Painting I*
8 "Flowers & Art" preview at Denver Art Museum
9-11 "Flowers & Art"
10 *Medicinal and Wild Foods Walk*
Japanese Tea Ceremony
10, 11 Colorado Koi Club show
11 Colorado Water Garden Society plant sale
Free admission to DBG 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Alpine Wildflowers of Mount Evans
Cooking with Judith Fine-Sarchielli: Tuscan Hilltop Picnic
Japanese Tea Ceremony
14 *Herbal Tea Garden*

Get your Birdhaus Competition registration in by May 23!

Birdhouse and bird feeder builders are reminded that Denver Botanic Gardens' first-ever Birdhaus Competition entry registration deadline is Tuesday, May 23. Completed entry is due June 29. There is no entry fee.

Anyone can enter the competition. Entries must be able to be hung from a tree branch, to be mounted on a pedestal or table, or to stand unsupported. The structures may be of any material.

Entries will be judged on originality, craftsmanship, functionality, humor and whimsy. The most outstanding entry will receive $1,000. Other citations and awards will be given in an adult and a 10-years-and-younger category. A people's choice award will be presented at the conclusion of the exhibit, which is open to the public at the Gardens July 14 to 30. All submissions become the property of Denver Botanic Gardens and will be auctioned or sold to benefit the Gardens.

For more information or a registration form call 303-370-8055.

Green Thumb News

Denver Botanic Gardens June 1995

DBG, art museum, garden club present 'Flowers & Art' celebration of floral arrangements and art masterpieces

Denver Botanic Gardens will join with Denver Art Museum and Garden Club of Denver to provide a June event of "Flowers & Art" and horticultural expertise.

The art museum will feature imaginative interpretations of more than 60 works of art displayed in its galleries. The Gardens will be the setting for a gourmet picnic luncheon and for expert tutorials in floral design.

Friday, June 9, nationally known New York event designer, landscape architect and lecturer Renny Reynolds will be the speaker at the lunch at the Gardens. Reynolds' innate sense of style has given him the opportunity to plan White House affairs for three presidents. He will present a slide show and lecture, "Design for Entertaining," at noon in DBG's John C. Mitchell II Hall. Cost is $45 per person, and reservations are required.

Reynolds' forte is "transformation of space" through the creation of storybook weddings, huge events for nonprofit organizations, excitingly original parties and intimate dinners. His firm employs a team of 28 handpicked designers and production staff, and the greenhouses on his 72-acre estate, The Perennial Farm, provide much of the floral materials for his creations. He writes a regular column on design and has been the subject of several feature stories in toney cooking, design and personality magazines.

Saturday, June 10, will be a day of design tutorials at Denver Botanic Gardens. Denver garden and floral designer Diane Row will instruct a

(article continued on page 3: 'Flowers')

Above, floral interpretation and painting from previous "Flowers & Art" exhibit at Denver Art Museum.

New Shakespeare fest joins two music series – one for kids – at the Gardens this summer

Denver Botanic Gardens will raise the curtain on a new world this summer — the world of *al fresco* theater – with four evenings of Shakespeare joining DBG's two concert series in the Gardens' amphitheater.

The Shakespeare performances will be presented by Compass Theatre Company, a relatively new company in Denver that has garnered astonishing critical success since first taking to the boards in 1992. Its 1993 production of *Cyrano de Bergerac* was dubbed "best classical production of 1993" by Jackie Campbell, critic of the *Rocky Mountain News*. Artistic director, Christopher Selbie, was awarded "best actor of the year, 1994" for his portrayal of Iago in the company's production of *Othello*.

Compass is comprised of more than 70 members: professional actors, directors, musicians and technicians, as well as students, business people and professional educators. Compass has performed in City Park and the Littleton Town Hall Arts Center, as well as on radio and at other venues throughout the area. It is rapidly becoming a major regional artistic and educational force.

At the Gardens, Compass will stage Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Much Ado About Nothing*, the first on June 22 and July 1, the latter on June 23 and 30.

DBG's presentations of plays and concerts are valuable for introducing new audiences to its horticultural, educational and recreational programs. They have also become an important source of revenue in support of these programs.

Members soon will receive in the mail a complete summer schedule and other information on concerts – kids' and adults' – and plays.

(Please see the related article, From the Executive Director, *page 2.)*

Inside this issue:

DBG and neighbors reach agreement on concerts and future planning input.
– page 2

Iris show will provide rainbow over the Gardens June 3 & 4.
– page 3

Schoolteachers to study at DBG Wetlands Institute at Chatfield.
– page 5

Membership office offers breakfasts, tours, picnic and special Father's Day membership.
– page 7

From the executive director

In little more than 40 years Denver Botanic Gardens has become a major cultural institution serving Denver, the region and the country – even gaining a substantial international reputation among botanic gardens. We have done this, primarily, with our gardens and programs at York Street, and with an increasingly strong program at our Chatfield Arboretum.

Our success, at times, has created some problems within the neighborhood surrounding our York Street site. We regret this. While we have made some mistakes, we always have tried to be considerate neighbors. We must fulfill our mission by attracting people to our facility, and that, inevitably, leads to some conflicts.

For approximately 18 months now we have been in intensive conversations with our neighbors about our plans, programs and activities, and, most recently, on how to create an ongoing process to involve neighbors' viewpoints in our plans.

At this time, we have reached a tentative agreement that we believe protects the integrity of the institution and, at the same time, gives our neighbors a larger role, especially on matters that affect them.

A neighborhood advisory committee will be formed to meet with DBG staff and trustees. The members of the committee will be appointed by the neighborhood groups near the Gardens. This should greatly facilitate open communication between DBG and its neighbors, allowing us to hear a variety of viewpoints from our immediate community – and helping them learn more about the Gardens.

For each of the next three years DBG will add two neighborhood members to the Board of Trustees. These members will be nominated by the advisory committee, approved by the Board of Trustees and then appointed by the Mayor.

We have agreed to allow the City Planning Office to review any major plans that affect our neighborhood before they are sent to the Manager of Parks and Recreation for a final decision. The approval of the Manager of Parks and Recreation is a long-standing requirement of our cooperative agreement with the City and County of Denver.

We believe this agreement will strengthen our relationship with the community and, at the same time, allow us to continue educating the public about the importance and beauty of the plant world and our dependence on plants.

– Richard H. Daley
Executive Director

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Jeppesen's Corporate Contributions Program gives to local health and human services, education, community service and arts organizations. The company began contributing to DBG at the request of one of its employees.

All members invited to annual picnic at Chatfield Arboretum

Chatfield Arboretum's 19th-century farms will be the setting for a "Picnic in the Country" for members Sunday, July 16, from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

You and your family can discover the arboretum's many attractions and enjoy guided hayride tours, storytelling in the Deer Creek School, hands-on craft activities, and demonstrations and entertainment by the music and dance group "Calico and Boots." Individual picnic basket dinners will be provided by Pour La France! Catering.

Cost is $9 for adults and $6 for children 12 and younger. Members will receive their invitation in the mail. For more information or to make reservations, please call the DBG special events line, 370-8187, beginning June 15. Or you may send your invitation response card, with your check, to DBG, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206.

June cultural free days

Denver's major cultural institutions will offer free admission to Colorado residents in June, thanks, in part, to funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District:

- Denver Botanic Gardens, every Sunday morning from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- DBG's Chatfield Arboretum, Saturday, June 3
- Denver Art Museum, every Saturday.

Green Thumb News
June 1995
Published monthly by the Marketing and Special Events Department of Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206
Editor: Larry Latta, 370-8033
Deadline for August issue: June 16
Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum are established and maintained by Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc., for the people of the City and County of Denver and for the general public in cooperation with the Denver Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Botanic Gardens is also grateful for funds from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which enable the Gardens to expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

'Flowers and Art'

(continued from page 1)

hands-on tutorial in non-traditional design using new, interesting plants and containers for patios or atriums. Row, of Jarman Row Design, has taught at DBG. She designed DBG's containerized plant exhibit at the 1993 Spring Home and Patio Show.

Participants in her workwhop will hear a discussion of suitable plants by a DBG horticultural staff member, view slides of dramatic arrangements, then create their own "design plantings" under Row's direction. Soil and plants will be provided, but students should bring their own containers (of approximately 12-inch inside dimensions). Space is limited; tickets are $50.

Also on Saturday, DBG's education department will offer three floral design workshops for children. In "Flowers & Art for Children" kids will explore how flowers and art go together, using fresh flowers and imagination to create their master interpretations of a work of art. In "From Garden to Table" children will search the Gardens for kitchen herbs, discovering how food comes from different parts of plants. "Little Landscapes" investigates designing and planting container gardens, using live plants, rocks, moss and other materials. Classes are $15 for members, $18 for nonmembers. Preregistration is required.

The preview party that kicks off this year's "Flowers & Art" celebration is Thursday evening, June 8, at Denver Art Museum. The gala will offer cocktails, a sumptuous array of hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction of special items and services, and the chance to see the arrangements at their freshest. Advance reservations – $75 each – are required.

The museum arrangements and horticulture displays will be open to the public – for regular museum admission prices and hours – June 9 through 11. They are part of a Garden Club of America-sanctioned show being hosted and coordinated by Garden Club of Denver.

"Flowers & Art" sponsors and underwriters are Perry & Company Realty, Foleys, Wyncoop Brewery and Applewood Seed Co.

For information on "Flowers & Art" call 640-3896. To register for the children's classes at the Gardens call 370-8020.

To reserve your spot at the preview party, the gourmet picnic and lecture and the tutorial with Diane Row, send your check, payable to Denver Art Museum, and your reservation request to Denver Art Museum, Flowers & Art, 100 West 14th Ave. Parkway, Denver, CO 80204.

(Please see "Flowers & Art" schedule, page 7.)

Renny Reynolds, author of The Art of the Party, will be on hand for autographs after his lecture at the Gardens June 9 and, also, at the "Flowers & Art" preview party at the museum. His book is for sale in the DBG Gift Shop, 1005 York St.

Iris society presents annual show at the Gardens June 3 & 4

The annual iris show by Region 20 members of the American Iris Society leads off this month's parade of interesting, beautiful plant shows at the Gardens. Iris growers and floral arrangers will stage "An Iris Holiday" in DBG's John C. Mitchell II Hall Saturday and Sunday, June 3 and 4.

The weekend should also see the major portion of DBG's outstanding iris collection – the tall bearded, or German, iris – in full bloom. Several of the many unusual species in the Rock Alpine Garden will be coming into their season, also.

The show will present an opportunity to see blossoms of the finest and newest iris varieties available. Some of the top plant breeders in the nation are in the Rocky Mountain region; the annual show at DBG is where you can glimpse their latest introductions.

In the horticultural division will be single stems grown and groomed to perfection. "English boxes" will illustrate special group collections. Artistic floral arrangements of iris will adhere to a somewhat musical theme.

The show will be open for viewing 1 to 4:45 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Sunday. For more information, including entry schedules, call show chairperson Jayme Irvin, 303-825-3384.

Blooms in June: Roses at their peak now

This is the month to visit Denver Botanic Gardens to enjoy the glorious profusion of blooms on DBG's collection of modern roses. As days become longer and temperatures rise, flower production increases. Strong scents and vivid coloration can be best experienced early in the day or late in the afternoon.

DBG's May Bonfils Stanton Memorial Rose Garden displays a varied collection that concentrates mostly on modern hybrids, but also featuring floribundas, old garden roses, species and shrub roses. Their care is a year-long process.

After breaking dormancy earlier in the year, the roses were pruned. Two applications of an organic fertilizer have been made. Roses are heavy feeders.

DBG's roses are "deadheaded" twice a week by staff and volunteers. This removal of spent flowers encourages more blooms and improves the garden's appearance. Everblooming roses are deadheaded by cutting the flower-bearing stems to just above the uppermost node that has a leafstem of five leaflets. Roses that bloom only once should not have spent flowers removed, to allow the formation of ornamental rose hips.

Rose growers are blessed by Colorado's climate: Modern rose varieties are not plagued by a host of diseases. Gardeners usually can combat disease and pests without using chemicals, because chemicals can be very disruptive to the garden's ecosystem. Also, gardeners can acquire disease-resistant rose varieties. Many newer rose varieties have resistance to mildew and black spot. By selecting varieties well-suited to Colorado's climate, you will greatly reduce the work needed to maintain beautiful and heathy roses.

Aphids and spider mites are common rose pests. Aphids are easily and safely controlled with insecticidal soap or blasts of water from the garden hose. Spider mites, common in hot weather, may need a chemical control. Your garden center can recommend a reliable brand.

DBG's Helen Fowler Library and local rose societies are excellent sources of information on growing roses.

Ed Sandoval DBG's April employee of the month

Ed Sandoval, utility worker in the operations department, was chosen by his co-workers as April's employee of the month.

Ed was recognized by his peers for his hard work, dependability and willingness to cooperate with other staff. Ed never complains and is always going that extra mile to make things better for everyone. He shows a real commitment to DBG.

Congratulations, Ed.

Students with special needs learn horticultural skills at DBG's Morrison demonstration center

Bryan and Patrick don't hesitate to get their hands in the dirt while planting bright yellow pansies and red leaf lettuce in the raised beds at DBG's Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center. In fact, they can't wait for the next planting project to begin.

The two young men from T.H. Pickens Community College are participating in a 10-week horticultural therapy vocational training program serving secondary and post-secondary students with special needs. The program's goals are to teach students industry-quality horticultural skills, allow them to earn credit or money through their school and give them the opportunity to grow socially by working in a supportive, non-restrictive environment.

Currently, former horticultural therapy intern Janet Laminack is serving as a program job coach to three high school interns from Pickins. The group works four afternoons a week at the Morrison Center and is learning a variety of tasks, including transplanting seedlings, plant propagating, watering, plant grooming, caring for tools, harvesting, cultivating and potting.

By serving as a transitional training site, Denver Botanic Gardens offers people like Brian and Patrick an opportunity to gain work skills that may assist them in achieving a more self-sufficient life with a job in the private sector.

Recently a group of high school students with disabilities worked in the Morrison Center greenhouse twice a week for eight months to learn pre-vocational job skills. This unique opportunity for the students to practice useful techniques away from the classroom environment had many benefits. The teachers who accompanied the students each week noticed fewer behavioral problems, and the students appeared more calm and they performed better when working in the greenhouse. Most horticultural therapy programs experience the same beneficial behavioral changes.

DBG's horticultural therapy program brings together the special skills required to make such a project successful. Efforts of the program over the last several years have included pre-vocational training with a number of area schools. Funding is being sought to integrate the training programs into a broader effort to work with the horticulture industry in employing people with disabilities. The relationship can be mutually beneficial for the industry and the special-needs client: Employers benefit froma stable work force; clients receive compensation and satisfaction.

For the Aurora students or those in the 10-week vocational program, the joys and benefits of a real-life experience, like the one at Denver Botanic Gardens, can make a positive difference in their lives. It allows the students to demonstrate their capabilities to potential employers and their job coach. And it may even become a life career.

—Christine Kramer
DBG Horticultural Therapy Assistant

Wetlands Institute for teachers at Chatfield

Denver Botanic Gardens will present a five-day course for K-12 classroom teachers on the importance and functions of wetlands at Chatfield Arboretum the week of June 26.

Through hands-on activities, lectures, guest speakers, field observations and demonstrations, participants will learn about Colorado water issues and have the opportunity to experience different wetland ponds and streamside sites. Teachers will receive a notebook of activities to use in their classroom, a bountiful amount of knowledge and a newfound understanding of the delicate interrelationships of these critical areas.

The institute is from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, June 26, through Friday, June 30. Teachers can register by calling Colorado School of Mines, 273-3303. The 2.5 graduate recertification credit fee is $190.

DBG hosts National Fragrance Week events

Denver Botanic Gardens will host the inaugural event of National Fragrance Week, the fragrance industry's presentation of the first annual Scent-Sational Denver awards. Colorado perfumers, manufacturers, advertisers, retailers and their customers will pay $50 each to attend the awards dinner in John C. Mitchell II Hall June 2.

Proceeds from the dinner will benefit the Denver Botanic Gardens Fragrance Garden.

June 5 to 10 participating vendors will host product sampling and exhibits at the Gardens. Vendors will include The Broadway, Monday, June 5; Saks Fifth Avenue, Tuesday, June 6; Nicole Miller, Wednesday, June 7; JC Penney Thursday, June 8; and Joslins, Friday, June 9.

For more information call Scottie Taylor, Denver coordinator of National Fragrance Week, 303-489-2229.

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Celebrate Father's Day weekend at annual bonsai exhibition

Father's Day weekend, June 17 and 18, the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society will hold its yearly exhibition at the Gardens.

The annual show is renowned for the quality of plants the society's members put on display. Some of the finest examples of the bonsai art between Washington, D.C., and San Francisco reside in the Rocky Mountain Region.

Besides the prized specimens, some of which are hundreds of years old, scores of beginners' plants and young specimens will be on display. One of the most popular features of the show is the sale of "starter" plants. Hundreds of trees and shrubs – tropical and temperate – that have received their initial training from the society's experts and are ready for new owners to tend them into majestic maturity.

Hours of the exhibition are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. For information call 303-423-5317.

Watery weekend at Gardens June 10 & 11

Denver Botanic Gardens will host two watery events the weekend of June 10 and 11: The Colorado Koi Club will exhibit Japanese pond fish both days, and, on Sunday only, the Colorado Water Garden Society will hold its annual aquatic plant sale.

Members of both groups will be on hand to help homeowners dive into the increasingly popular pastime of water gardening.

The water garden sale begins at 11 a.m. Sunday, and will probably be sold out by 3 p.m. Members are advised to arrive early for the best selection of plants.

DBG a 'Garden Gate' to the internet

DBG's Helen Fowler Library now has an entrance ramp to the information highway: The library has subscribed to a computer network that gives users access to databases from botanical gardens and herbaria world-wide, such as Kew Gardens in England and the New York Botanical Gardens. Through this network the library has access to all kinds of plant and gardening databases.

The "Garden Gate" is one of the most exciting programs. It is a world-wide web that offers a cornucopia of horticultural information:

- "The Teaching Garden" is a list of garden notes, plant lists and glossaries from a variety of sources.
- "The Sun Room" is all about house-plants and tropicals and gives plant-saving information.
- "The Reading Room" links to "virtual" books, magazines and catalogs (a virtual publication is one that is published on-line).

Members are encouraged to call the library, 303-370-8014, to arrange a demonstration. If you have access to the world-wide web, you can visit the "Garden Gate." Its address: **http://www.prairienet.org/ag/garden/homepage.htm**

First-quarter '95 upper level members

DBG is pleased to welcome the new and renewing Botanist Club, Conservator's Society and Perennial Partner members who joined the Gardens January through March 1995.

Botanist Club Members

Mr. John D. Abernathy
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce D. Alexander
Mrs. Velma Andrews
Dr. & Mrs. Richard L. Angstadt
Mr. & Mrs. Russell E. Atha, III
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Barish
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Bayard
Ms. Laura Bennett
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bierbach
Mr. & Mrs. Peter H. Blair
Dr. & Mrs. S. Gilbert Blount
Mrs. Viola Boothby
Mrs. Martha A. Borgstede
Dr. Sally J. Boyson
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Branney
Dr. & Mrs. Horace Brayshaw
Mrs. Dorris I. Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Paul W. Burkett
Dr. & Mrs. Walter J. Bushnell
Mr. & Mrs. Owen B. Butler
Mr. & Mrs. Cletus E. Byrne Jr.
Mr. Doug Calvert
Mr. & Mrs. Donald C. Campbell
Mrs. Charla G. Cannon
Dr. Dana L. Cogan
Mr. & Mrs. G. K. Conwick
Mr. & Mrs. William P. Crossen
Mrs. Rosalie C. Culver
Mr. & Mrs. Richard G. Daniels
Dr. & Mrs. Dan Davis
Dr. & Mrs. John K. Davis, III
Mrs. Mildred Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Dirks
Ms. Rosalie Dunham
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Eberl
Ms. Wendy Edwardson
Mr. Larry Engelken
Ms. Paula Englander
Dr. & Mrs. Gerald M. English
Ms. Linda Fenner
Mr. & Mrs. David Ferguson
Ms. Lillian Filegar
Mr. Bill Fink
Ms. Fran Finkelstein
Ms. Hylla Fischer
Mr. Bob Fleming
Ms. Joan Ford
Mr. Sam Freedman
Mr. & Mrs. Mark T. Gallagher
Dr. & Mrs. Richard C. Garbe
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin M. Gart
Mr. & Mrs. Bruno Gegenschatz
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Mr. & Mrs. Henry W. Gossard
Mr. & Mrs. Max P. Grassfield
Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Greenberg
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Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Woodruff
Mr. & Mrs. Lucius E. Woods
Mr. & Mrs. Earl L. Wright

Thanks to corporate friends of DBG's Plant and Book Sale

The annual Plant and Book Sale in May owed much of its success to the sponsorship of several companies who are friends of the Gardens. The Board of Trustees, the Plant and Book Sale Committee and the Gardens' staff are grateful for their corporate generosity.

The *Rocky Mountain News* and KVOD radio were the event's media sponsors, helping to attract shoppers by providing invaluable publicity.

Major underwriters were Smith & Hawken, Tuscany Restaurant at Loews Giorgio Hotel, Show of Hands, Colorado State Banks and Wagner Equipment Company.

Conservator's Society
Mrs. E. H. Grant
Mr. & Mrs. Edward B. Horton Jr.
Mr. Douglas McCallum
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Moline
Dr. & Mrs. Gordon W. Petersen
Dr. & Mrs. John F. Roberts
Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Robinette
Mr. & Mrs. James H. Shaner
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Mr. & Mrs. Stephen M. Strachan
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Perennial Partners
Dr. & Mrs. Dilworth P. Sellers
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First-quarter corporate members

A heartfelt "Thank you" to corporate members who began* or renewed their support during the first quarter of 1995:

- Alzheimer's Association, Rocky Mountain Chapter*
- King Soopers
- Du-Wald Steel Corporation
- Cooley Gravel Company

Tributes

In memory of George G. Anderman
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Kirk

In memory of Doug Brisson
Ms. Evelyn Pederson
Ms. Ruth Myers
Marlys & Merlyn Rodahl

In memory of Jesse E. Hackstaff
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Haack

In memory of Grace Heavner
Ellen, Doug & Robin Porter
National Parks Service, Air Quality Division

In memory of Thomas Lopac
Mr. Jim R. Martinez
Valerie & Stephen Mazzola & family
Ms. Darlene Cook

In memory of Gertrude M. Newman
Mrs. Marie Harrington

In memory of Stan Rudnick
Mr. Richard Sanders

In memory of Charles Tobias
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Appel

In memory of Catherine F. Shea
Mrs. John C. McCullough
Ms. Miriam L. McGrath
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald A. Gutman
Mr. & Mrs. Emerson Ellett
Mrs. Harry L. Deem

A memorial or honorarium is a thoughtful way to make a gift to the Gardens. Please call 303-370-8064 for information.

From your membership office

Rise and shine for breakfast and tour at Chatfield

Members at the Botanist Club level and above are invited to a continental breakfast at DBG's Chatfield Arboretum Saturday, June 17, at 8 a.m. Volunteer naturalist guides will lead tours of the arboretum immediately after the breakfast. Reservations are required; please call Amy Capra, 370-8021.

Behind-the-scenes tour for Arbor Circle members & above

Members at the Arbor Circle level and above are invited to explore DBG's production greenhouses Wednesday, June 7. The behind-the-scenes tours will begin at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Refreshments and musical entertainment will be provided. Space is limited, so reserve your spot quickly. Please call Amy Capra, 370-8021.

Special membership offer for Father's Day: a treat for two

If your father loves to garden or to visit Denver Botanic Gardens to savor the work he didn't have to do, consider getting him his very own membership for Father's Day.

With his new membership, your dad will receive a free gift certificate (up to $4.50 value) redeemable for a "Treat-for-Two" at DBG's patio snack shop. He (and you?) can enjoy ice cream bars of vanilla & almond or cookies & cream, "grand cones" of caramel almond crunch or double almond fudge, or delicious all-natural savage strawberry, calypso coconut or bongo banana fruit bars.

Denver Art Museum ▪ Denver Botanic Gardens ▪ Garden Club of Denver

Flowers & Art Schedule

June 8: Preview Party & Silent Auction
Time: 6 to 9 p.m.
Location: Denver Art Museum, 14th Avenue and Bannock Street
Tickets: $75 per person
Information: 303▪640▪3896

June 9 through 11: Floral Interpretations on Display
Times: Friday & Saturday, June 9 & 10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, June 11, 12 to 5 p.m.
Location: Denver Art Museum, 14th Avenue and Bannock Street
Admission: $3 adults, $1.50 for students and seniors, free for children 5 and younger and free for DBG and DAM members
Information: 303▪640▪3896

June 9: Gourmet Picnic Lunch and "Design for Entertaining," with Renny Reynolds
Time: noon
Location: Denver Botanic Gardens, 1005 York Street
Tickets: $45 (limited seating)
Information: 303▪640▪3896

June 9: Art and Culture of Aquatic Containers, with Joseph Tomocik
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Location: Denver Art Museum, 14th Avenue and Bannock Street
Admission: Free with standard DAM admission
Information: 303▪640▪3896

June 10: Floral Design Tutorials
With Diane Row (for adults):
Time: 10 a.m.
Location: Denver Botanic Gardens, 1005 York Street
Registration: $50 each
Information: 303▪640▪3896
For children:
Times: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 & 2:30 p.m.
Location: Denver Botanic Gardens, 1005 York Street
Registration: $18 each ($15 for members of DAM and DBG)
Information: 303▪370▪8020

June 10: Wonders of an Alpine Trough, with Panayoti Kelaidis
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Location: Denver Art Museum, 14th Avenue and Bannock Street
Admission: Free with standard DAM admission
Information: 303▪640▪3896

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June

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Coming Up: Classes are in italics. An * indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For **course information** refer to DBG's summer Education Programs or 303-370-8020. For **current DBG events information**: 303-370-8187. For current plant and arts **society meeting information**: 303-370-8097.

June

3 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
Peony Passion
** Trough Garden Workshop*
Bird Walk for Beginners

3, 4 American Iris Society, Region 20, show

4 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum tour

5 ** Beginning Bonsai I*
** Perennials for Connoisseurs*

5-7 National Fragrance Week celebration

6 ** Gardens with an Altitude*
** Zen of Botanical Illustration – Field Sketching*

7 Behind-the-Scenes Tour, for members at Arbor Circle level and above – free!
Clematis: The Queen of Vines
Backyard Bears
** Watercolor Painting I*

8 "Flowers & Art" preview at Denver Art Museum

9-11 "Flowers & Art"

10 *Medicinal and Wild Foods Walk*
Japanese Tea Ceremony

10, 11 Rocky Mountain Koi Club show

11 Colorado Water Garden Society plant sale
Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum tour
Alpine Wildflowers of Mount Evans
Cooking with Judith Fine-Sarchielli: Tuscan Hilltop Picnic
Japanese Tea Ceremony

14 *Herbal Tea Garden*

17 Breakfast at Chatfield Arboretum, for members at Botanist Club level and above – free!
Field Wildflower Taxonomy II
Golden Gate Canyon State Park
Japanese Tea Ceremony

17, 18 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society Exhibition

18 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum tour
Japanese Tea Ceremony

19 ** Perennial Focus*
** Arranging Lessons with Fresh Flowers*

24 *Golden Watershed, Bergen Park*

25 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Rustic Plant Stand
Chatfield Arboretum tour

26-30 ** Wetlands Institute for Teachers*

27 *Home Irrigation System*

July

1 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum

2 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum tour
Japanese Tea Ceremony

6 ** Budget Flower Arranging*
** Starting to Draw Flowers*
** Museum & DBG: Natural History Comes Alive*

8, 9 Mile High Daylily Society show

8 *Summer Rose Care*
Rocky Mountain National Park
Japanese Tea Ceremony

9 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
** Garden Troubleshooting*
Japanese Tea Ceremony
Chatfield Arboretum tour

10 ** Raffia Hat*
** Beginning Bonsai II*

11 ** Dry It. You'll Like It*
** Make a Twig Trellis*

12 ** Plants as Educational Tools (K-8)*
Flowers of the Alpine: Loveland Pass

13 BirdHaus Bash Preview Party

14-28 BirdHaus display

15 *Birdhouse Basics*
Close-up Flower Photography

16 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum tour
Japanese Tea Ceremony

18 *Miniature Roses*
Colorado Butterflies

19 *Budget Flower Arranging*

BirdHaus entries must be perched at Gardens June 29 – 'Bash' follows

Builders of birdhouses and bird feeders for Denver Botanic Gardens' BirdHaus Competition are reminded that the competition closes Thursday, June 29. The structures will be judged, then unveiled at the BirdHaus Bash Preview Party Thursday, July 13. They will be displayed at the Gardens July 14 to 30.

At the preview party the houses and feeders will be auctioned or sold to benefit the Gardens. Also at the party – a cocktail buffet with beer and wine bar – Broadway Brewing Company will unveil an ale concocted especially for the event, BirdHaus Ale. Other Broadway brews will be offered.

Tickets for the Bash are $45 per person, $22 of which is a tax-deductible gift to the Gardens. For more information call 303-370-8055.

Green Thumb News

Denver Botanic Gardens July 1995

Summer Series: classics, jazz, pops, ballet

Denver Botanic Gardens' 15th summer of concerts – an exciting lineup of classical music, jazz, pops, family sing-along and ballet – gets under way this month. The evenings of concerts follow four stagings of Shakespeare at the Gardens, the final one of which, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, is July 1.

Charlie Haden

The first concert in the DBG Summer Series is Friday, July 7. Brothers & Sisters will feature music of Mozart, Brahms and Strauss performed by Michele Zukovsky and a most extraordinary orchestra of siblings: Ida and Ani Kavafian, Benny and Eric Kim, Roberto and Andres Diaz. Some of the finest performers around, they were brought together originally for the Bravo! Colorado Music Festival.

Wednesday, July 12, brings impeccable close-harmony singing, virtuosic instrumental work and spectacular tap dancing from the '20s, '30s and '40s by The Manhattan Rhythm Kings. The troupe will re-create the world of Gershwin, Cole Porter and Irving Berlin – all here at the Gardens.

(Continued on page 3: "Summer Series")

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DBG offers classes for teachers. – *page 3*

Iris rhizomes go on sale July 22. – *page 5*

Sign up for BirdHaus Bash. – *page 7*

BirdHaus entries in, Bash preview July 13

With names like Triple Cabana, Denver International Aviary and Chump Towers, the 176 entries in DBG's first-ever birdhouse and birdfeeder competition are sure to make the BirdHaus Bash an event to remember.

The winning entries will be unveiled at a fund-raising preview party Thursday, July 13. Birdhouses and birdfeeders will be put to silent auction at 5:30 p.m., then a live auction will be conducted by auctioneer Jay Bauer at 7 p.m.

Partying birdhouse browsers will enjoy an international hors d'oeuvre buffet by Epicurean Catering, a beer and wine bar featuring BirdHaus Ale and other Broadway Brewing Company libations, and a variety of entertainment through the evening. All proceeds from the party and the auction will support the Gardens' educational and horticultural programs and visitor services. (Please see page 7 for party reservation form.)

All houses and feeders will be put on display at the Gardens July 14 to 30 for public viewing – included in DBG's regular admission fees (free to members). Many fun and educational family activities are planned throughout the two-week period. Call DBG's education office, 370-8020, for more information or to register for classes.

(Continued on page 6: "BirdHaus Bash")

THE DENVER POST presents the

Denver Botanic Gardens

Summer Series • 1995 •

Concerts in the Gardens

July 7
Brothers & Sisters
Classics by Bravo! Colorado
$14 members / $17 nonmembers

July 12
Manhattan Rhythm Kings
Tap returns!
$15 members / $18 nonmembers

July 20
Wind Machine
Magical guitars!
$14 members / $17 nonmembers

July 26
Lois LaFond – for kids!
Song celebration
$8 members / $10 nonmembers

August 3
Chalie Haden & Quartet West
Great jazz!
$15 members / $18 nonmembers

August 16
Rainforest Odyssey – for kids!
David Taylor Dance Theatre
$9 members / $11 nonmembers

August 17
Turtle Island String Quartet
Much more than jazz!
$15 members / $18 nonmembers

August 24
Tuck & Patti
Intimate folk & rock!
$15 members / $18 nonmembers

Sponsored by KVOD 99.5 fm The Classical Voice of Denver

The Great-West Life Assurance Company

with thanks to METRAHEALTH

Tickets: 777-7372 or DBG gate house, 1005 York St.
Information: 370-8187

From the executive director

Much of the important work of Denver Botanic Gardens goes on behind the scenes and largely out of sight of the public. An example of this is our research work on rare and endangered plants native to the Rocky Mountain region.

In May DBG hosted the board of directors of the Center for Plant Conservation for the first time. This consortium of 25 United States botanic gardens was formed to protect, preserve and study our most rare native plants. The board met at DBG at my invitation because of the exemplary program developed here under the leadership of botanist Carol Dawson.

We now have more than two dozen plants grown and protected at the Gardens in case the wild populations disappear. These are on public display in our Endangered Species Garden. We also have seeds of these plants in cold storage at DBG and at the National Seed Storage Laboratory at CSU.

Our work focuses on more than just protection. We are studying endangered plants in their native habitats to understand their unique biology and, hopefully, with this knowledge we will be able to save more species from disappearing. Our program also includes education, to raise awareness of the value and plight of our Rocky Mountain plants.

At a time when endangered species protection has taken on a negative context in some political quarters, Denver Botanic Gardens is working quietly and effectively to preserve and protect plants right here in our own backyard. These plants are the result of millions of years of evolution. Once they are lost, their unique genes are lost to the world forever.

– Richard H. Daley
Executive Director

Bus riders have chance to win Continental tickets

Concertgoers who ride the Gardens' free shuttle buses to and from the satellite parking lot at the GlendaleTarget store will have the opportunity to enter a drawing for two free Continental Airline tickets. Riders can enter each time they use the service during the summer. The drawing for the tickets will be made after the final concert of the season, August 24.

The bus ride is an extra activity on concert nights that kids, especially, enjoy.

Buses make frequent trips to and from the Gardens before and after the concerts. They load at the south side of the Target parking lot, 4301 E. Virginia Ave. The lot is under security surveillance. If an urgency arises that requires you to leave before the concert is over, special arrangements will be made to return you to your car.

SBA grants $12,000 for Chatfield tree display

One hundred twenty-five different kinds of trees have been planted at Chatfield Arboretum this summer as the result of a grant from the Small Business Administration.

According to Arboretum Horticultural Supervisor Chris Hartung, the $12,000 grant, issued in 1994 through the Colorado Tree Coalition, was made to assist small businesses that grow, transport and install nursery plants. Denver Botanic Gardens contributed another $8,000 in money and in-kind services to the planting project.

The new trees were planted along the path between the Deer Creek School Visitor Center picnic area and the creek. They join 30 previously installed trees to form an educational "tree walk" which will eventually contain all tree species known to grow in the Denver area.

Some examples of trees in the collection are Sakhalin corktree, (*Phellodendron sachalinense*), winterberry euonymous (*Euonymus bungeana*), and cucumbertree magnolia, (*Magnolia acuminata*).

Flighty fun for families during BirdHaus Bash

Parents can join their kids in investigating the lives of birds during activities associated with this summer's BirdHaus Bash, July 15 to 23.

Saturday, July 15, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. children will create a mural on the diversity of birds and where they live, and paint their favorite bird or habitat – real or imagined.

Monday through Thursday, July 17 to 20, children 3 to 11 can take bird classes. From building a bird sculpture to creating a special home for a feathered friend, something is available for everyone. Registration is first-come, first-served: call 370-8019.

Saturday and Sunday, July 22 and 23, families can drop in and learn about birds at the first "Kidding Around" activity of the year. In "On the Wing" they will attempt eating like a bird, nest building and perching. Using a feather and beet juice, children can create a take-home drawing.

Activities are included in DBG's standard admission fees (no charge to members).

Green Thumb News
July 1995

Published monthly by the Marketing and Special Events Department of Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206

Editor: Larry Latta, 370-8033
Deadline for September issue: July 14

Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum are established and maintained by Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc., for the people of the City and County of Denver and for the general public in cooperation with the Denver Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Botanic Gardens is also grateful for funds from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which enable the Gardens to expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Left: This useful – and beautiful – leaded glass lamp by Alex Glassman is an entry in the 1995 "Glass at the Gardens" show at Denver Botanic Gardens. It will be featured also in the 1996 Lamp for all Seasons *calendar.*

Region's premier glass exhibit at Gardens

The West's largest – and finest – annual exhibit of glass art returns to the Gardens Aug. 2 with the Glass Arts Fellowship's "Glass at the Gardens" show and sale. Running through Aug. 13, this show will offer only new works, not previously displayed for the public. It's the largest such exhibit outside the glass manufacturing centers in New York and Pennsylvania, and is enhanced by many plants from DBG's tropical collections.

Works range from fine art to more utilitarian items such as lamp shades and jewelry boxes. Elegance, whimsy and satire – all are depicted in the various fine art works. Some of the most popular items are kaleidoscopes – some of them quite magnificent – and etched glass mugs. Genres represented include leaded, slumped, acid etched, painted and sculpted glass.

The show is open during the Gardens' regular hours – 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. except to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays through Fridays – and is included in the standard DBG fees.

Classes for teachers on museums, plants

You can encourage any classroom teachers you know to take advantage of the teacher training classes offered at Denver Botanic Gardens this month. Each class includes hands-on opportunities to learn about plants, and an abundance of materials and techniques to take back to the classroom.

Teachers of grades K-12 can learn about the opportunities available at local cultural institutions during "Museum and Botanic Gardens: Natural History Comes Alive" July 6 and 13 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For teachers of kindergartners through eighth graders, "Plants as Educational Tools" focuses on using plants to promote full classroom participation by all children, including those with disabilities. This course is July 12 and 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

All teachers interested in learning general information and activities using plants in the classroom should plan to attend "Branch Out: Basic Plant Science for Teachers" July 27 and 28 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Teachers can earn one hour of graduate recertification credit through Colorado School of Mines for these classes. To register or for more information, call 273-3303.

Watercolor show to hang in Mitchell Hall

The Colorado Watercolor Society will hang its annual DBG show in John C. Mitchell II Hall July 21 through 30. The paintings will be mostly landscapes and florals but, also, a wide range of other subjects. Besides the judged pieces, matted works will be for sale.

The show is included in the Gardens' standard admission fees (free for members). For information call 743-8827.

Summer Series...

(continued from page 1)

A DBG summer favorite returns Thursday, July 20: Wind Machine. Arguably the finest musicians Colorado has produced, these fine, original artists will perform their own hauntingly beautiful guitar compositions and music of Bach, Pachelbel and others.

A special evening for kids will be the celebration of world cultures, self esteem and tuneful silliness Wednesday, July 26, by Lois LaFond & One World. LaFond's years of experience in teaching, music and the performing arts combine to create the ultimate in entertainment.

The series will continue in August with Charlie Haden & Quartet West, winners of Down Beat "critics poll album of the year"; David Taylor Dance Theatre in A Children's Rainforest Odyssey – another outing for the whole family; Turtle Island String Quartet, combining virtuosic jazz, classical bluegrass and blues; and Tuck & Patti, guitarist and vocalist in folk and jazz interpretations.

The DBG Summer Series is presented by *The Denver Post*, sponsored by KVOD-FM (99.5) and Great-West Life, and produced by Jim Sprinkle Productions. The Gardens also thanks MetraHealth for its support.

All performances begin at 7:15 p.m. except the two family concerts, Lois LaFond and David Taylor Dance, which begin at 7. Ticket prices vary – they may be purchased through 777-7372 or at the DBG gate house, 1005 York St.

Please see schedule on page 1, and bus riders' airline ticket chance on page 2.

New DBG water-smart garden designed by garden writer Lauren Springer

A new "water-smart" garden has been installed along the south side of Boettcher Memorial Conservatory.

The garden was designed by garden writer and designer Lauren Springer, who specified a wide variety of common and not-so-common drought-adapted plants to provide a season-long progression of colors, forms and textures.

The first phase of installation was completed in mid-1994 by DBG staff members assisted by youngsters in the Denver Urban Conservation Corp and the Denver Parks and Recreation Youth Employment Program. Approximately 200 varieties of drought-adapted perennials have been planted. Another 150 varieties of perennials and bulbs will be installed as sources are found.

Most of the plants were from one-gallon containers, and most thrived with minimal supplemental water despite record-setting heat last summer. The garden boasts a state-of-the-art irrigation system complete with a water meter to keep records on water use each season.

Improvements and additions will continue through 1996. A wheelchair-accessible path leads from the south entrance of Marnie's Pavillion – at the west end of the garden – to steps near the east end from the sidewalk at the north side of the amphitheater. Additional plants are being grown in DBG's propagation department, and hundreds of unusual bulbs will be purchased and planted.

Dedication of the garden is planned for later this summer. Funding for the garden was provided by the Denver Board of Water Commissioners and Metro Water Conservation Inc.

Bicycling DBG accountant seeks pledges for MS

DBG is sponsoring the participation of DBG accounting assistant Benito Juarez in a 150-mile bicycle ride to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Multiple sclerosis is a chronic disease of the central nervous system that adversely affects body movement control.

At it's 10th anniversary, the Colorado bike run is the oldest such fundraiser for the organization in the country.

Saturday, July 8, the cyclists will travel from Highlands Ranch through Parker and Franktown to Colorado Springs. The second day they will go through Penrose, across the Royal Gorge and to Canyon City, their goal.

Juarez, who was recently voted DBG's Employee of the Month, wants to raise at least $150 from DBG members and staff, who are encouraged to call him with their pledges: 370-8057.

Perennial border prepared for '96 meeting

In anticipation of the 1996 National Perennial Association meeting the DBG horticulture staff has revamped the 5,000 square-foot perennial display along the north-south pathway.

Through generous donations from several local nurseries, dozens of "cutting edge" selections emphasizing mid-summer blooming have been incorporated in the planting. Also, many unusual varieties of Siberian irises and daylilies have been relocated from the DBG collections formerly located just south of the east-west pathway.

By next summer, the perennial pathway will be a spectacular rainbow of colors.

Gates is DBG's May employee of the month

Tammy Gates, receptionist in the Waring House at 9th Ave. and York St, was selected by her co-workers as DBG's May employee of the month.

Tammy is recognized for her excellent service to customers, both Gardens patrons and co-workers. She takes the initiative to assist others and makes suggestions for efficiencies and improvements in her job. She always demonstrates a helpful attitude with a smile on her face.

Congratulations, Tammy!

Water gardens become popular in Colorado

I discovered last summer that water gardening is a way of life in the United Kingdom, even more so than in Colorado!

It is acknowledged that no home landscape is complete without a water garden. And it is proven year after year that there is no better place for water gardening than Colorado. And we can have fun catching up to the U.K.!

Water gardens are finding their way into more Denver backyards every year. More nurseries are carrying aquatics and growing in expertise.

DBG's aquatic display last year included more than 800 potted plants; 400 of those were water lilies. This could only be achieved with the dedicated help of the Colorado Water Garden Society. The society was aptly honored last summer by the International Water Lily Society for its many contributions to water gardening.

This summer's display will feature new designs and additional container garden applications. An exciting new water lily trial is the salmon-colored hardy water lily Nymphaia 'Colorado.' It's a natural for Colorado and will be available for purchase for the first time. N. 'Colorado' was hybridized by Dr. Kirk Strawn. Remember to visit DBG's downtown displays at the Larimer Square creekfront and Denver Art Museum, also.

– Joe Tomocik, DBG Horticulturist

Iris rhizomes for sale just in time to plant

Members of Region 20 of the American Iris Society will sell freshly dug divisions from their gardens and from the DBG collection Saturday, July 22, from 9 a.m. until they are sold out.

Now is the time to plant iris rhizomes. Putting them into the ground soon after they bloom allows them to develop new feeder roots during the summer, become well-established, survive the winter better and have more blossoms next year.

The society's strong desire to share the joy of growing irises keeps prices at this annual sale reasonable. Proceeds go to the American Iris Society and Denver Botanic Gardens to promote the culture and improvement of the iris.

Admission to the sale is included in DBG's standard gate fees (free to members). For more information call Tim Kuesel, 420-6806.

Daylilies center stage at Gardens July 8 & 9

For gardeners looking for the ultimate in hardy perennials, the Mile High Daylily Society will hold its annual show and sale at the Gardens the weekend of July 8 and 9. The show is 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Plants will be for sale in the sunken garden, just inside the York Street gate, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and from 10 a.m. until they're sold out on Sunday.

The weekend also will offer an opportunity to preview DBG's new daylily display garden. Members of Mile High reorganized the display in 1994 in anticipation of the American Hemerocallis Society convention in Denver in 1996. It now includes representatives of every historical group of hemerocallis hybrids and species, with bulbs and other perennials as companions to give the display year-round interest.

For information call 690-8514.

July cultural free days

Free admission will be offered to Colorado residents at major cultural institutions in July, thanks, in part, to funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District.

- Denver Botanic Gardens, every Sunday morning from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- DBG's Chatfield Arboretum, Saturday, July 2
- Denver Art Museum, every Saturday

A complete schedule of Denver's Tier 1 cultural institution free admission in 1995 is available at the information desk in DBG's lobby.

This tiger swallowtail butterfly caught the attention of Mike Weissman during last year's Chatfield Arboretum census.

Chatfield butterfly count for novices, pros

DBG naturalist Marsha Staughton invites members to flutter out to Chatfield Arboretum Saturday, July 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to help with the fourth annual butterfly census. Both novice and experienced butterfly watchers can count on an enjoyable learning experience with these beautiful insects during the survey. Mike Weissman, president of the Butterfly Consortium, will lead the census and help identify the species, while sharing his knowledge of their natural history.

Rare and unusual sightings often occur at the Arboretum, so don't miss this opportunity. Joining the survey is free to DBG members; $1 for nonmembers.

If you would like some formal preparation for the census, a "Colorado Butterflies" class will be held at the Arboretum Tuesday, July 18, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. For more information or to register, call the DBG education office, 370-8020.

DBG, CHAC join for Aug. Chile Harvest Fest

Denver Botanic Gardens and Chicano Humanities and Arts Council will collaborate again this year to present the Chile Harvest Festival at the Gardens in August.

The family-oriented event celebrates the cultures of Mexico and the Southwest. Hispanic artisans of New Mexico and Colorado will demonstrate their crafts, and the amphitheater will be filled with nonstop music and other entertainment. Mexican-American food will be available, and the Gardens will be growing more than 100 varieties of chiles to view and taste.

The festival is set for Saturday and Sunday, August 26 and 27. Complete information will be published in the next *Green Thumb News*.

Late-spring arrivals sunning at the Gardens

Wyncoop/ Broadway Brewing a corporate friend of DBG

The Wyncoop Brewing Company and Broadway Brewing L.L.C. are corporate sponsors new to the Gardens this year, providing products for several special events.

Of special interest, Broadway Brewing, a microbrewery co-owned by the Wyncoop Brewing Co. of Denver and Flying Dog Brewing Co. of Aspen, is bottling a special brew in honor of DBG's first ever BirdHaus Bash garden party and auction. Fresh peaches give the light bodied, blonde ale a subtle aroma and flavor – summertime in a bottle! Brewed with both German style and Cascade hops, BirdHaus is light, crisp and refreshing.

The ale will debut at the BirdHaus Bash July 13. Members can purchase a case at the brewery, 2441 Broadway (292-5027).

Fete des Fleurs to make elegant Sept. return

Fete des Fleurs, Denver Botanic Gardens' annual fall gala benefit event, will be held Thursday, Sept. 7, at the Gardens. A social hour amid the late summer blooms, a candle-lit dinner in an open air tent and dancing to the sounds of the Jerry Barnet Band will combine to make this event one of Denver's most elegant.

Chair of the 1995 Fete is Beth Vinton, who has served on the Fete planning committee in years past.

At a May 31 kick-off luncheon hosted by Vinton she introduced her committee, who will be instrumental in making the gathering happen successfully. Kim Morrill, who coordinated the decorations last year, is serving as Vinton's co-chair. Mary Osborn and Anne Hackstock are in charge of invitations and printing; Libby Trevor is chairing the publicity effort; and Christy Owen, Dawn Fulnewider, Genie Waters, Mary Lee Beauregard and Betty Clarke are handling various other details for the party.

Gretchen Shaffer is treasurer this year, and Katherine Whitcomb and Barbara Douglas are handling reservations. Diane Row and her committee – Mary Schaefer, Barbara Baldwin, Sheilagh Hudon, King Dobbins, Hope Connors and Ginny Freyer – will create the floral centerpieces for the dinner tables.

Fete des Fleurs raises important funds to support the Gardens' educational programming for adults and children. Invitations to the gala will be mailed in mid-July and published in the August *Green Thumb News*. Tickets are $175 per person ($350 per couple); patron tickets are $250 per person ($500 per couple). Sponsorships for the event begin at $1,500. For more information call the DBG development office, 370-8027.

BirdHaus Bash...

(continued from page 1)

Entries were received from artists, architects, birders, gardeners and children – far exceeding DBG's first-year expectations for entries. Birdhouse makers nation-wide joined in the competition; entries of function, form and fancy were received from Idaho, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Vermont, West Virginia and Hawaii.

The competition and display are meant to encourage participants and visitors to consider the importance of birds in our world and to encourage individuals to incorporate art into their own gardens.

On Sale
July 1 to July 4

Selected
Garden Ornaments
Limited time – significant savings

Denver Botanic Gardens Gift Shop

For Gardeners of Growing Distinction
1005 York Street
303•331•4009

From your membership office:

Country picnic at Chatfield

DBG members and their guests are invited to a country picnic at Chatfield Arboretum Sunday, July 16, from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

The 19th-century farm will be a perfect setting for the toe-tapping music of "Calico and Boots," the music and dance group that members have found so entertaining on previous outings. Also, picnickers can enjoy guided hayride tours, storytelling in the Deer Creek School, beeswax candlemaking, a birdhouse display in the historic farmhouse and picnic basket dinners from Pour La France! Catering.

Tickets are $9 for adults and $6 for children 12 and younger. For reservations or more information, please call the DBG box office, 370-8187, or send your response card (invitations were sent to all members) and your check to the Membership Department, Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206.

Is your privacy an issue?

Denver Botanic Gardens periodically exchanges names of our members with other cultural agencies or institutions that make offers we think our members may find interesting. Also, we sometimes call our members to remind them of certain events or that their membership has lapsed. If you do not want us to include your name on such lists, or would rather we not call you, we can code our computer records to reflect this.

Please call the membership office, 370-8029, at any time and leave your instructions on voice-mail, or call during business hours and talk with us directly.

Preview 'Glass at the Gardens'

Members and their guests are invited to John C. Mitchell II Hall for a sneak preview of the "Glass at the Gardens" show Wednesday, Aug. 2, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wine and cheese will be served. Reservations are required; please call Amy Capra, 370-8021, to reserve your spot.

Sign up for Bash preview & auction

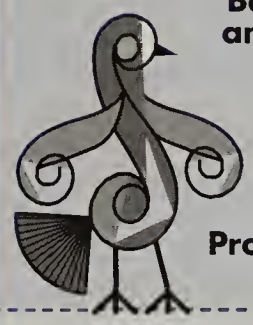
The BirdHaus Bash garden party and auction promises to be one of the most fun events of the summer. Sign up now (use the form on this page) for a preview of the BirdHaus Bash Competition winners, a new brew from our corporate friends at Broadway Brewing Co., and an international buffet.

BirdHaus Bash
Garden Party and Auction

Thursday, July 13
5:30 to 8 p.m.
Denver Botanic Gardens
1005 York Street

5:30 p.m.
Silent Auction opens - concludes following live auction

7 p.m.
Live Auction
Auctioneer Jay Bauer
Entertainment
International Buffet by Epicurean Catering
Beer and Wine Bar featuring BirdHaus Ale and other Broadway Brewing Co. libations



$45 per person
($22 tax-deductible contribution)
Proceeds to benefit Denver Botanic Gardens' education and horticulture programs

BirdHaus Bash Garden Party and Auction.

- Please reserve _____tickets at $45 each.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

- I am unable to attend, but have enclosed my donation of $ _____.

Reservations are due by July 7. For more information call 370-8055.

Mail this form and a check payable to Denver Botanic Gardens to:
BirdHaus Bash, 909 York Street, Denver, CO 80206

Tributes

In memory of Dr. Dick Gubner
Nikoli Devnani
Nina Devnani
Natasha Devnani-Nimmo
Tad Bloss
Gwen Gilley
Helen & Linden Johnson
Ed Cleaver
Colleen Johnson

In memory of Thomas Lopac
Nancy McDaniel & Steve French
Linda Compton Pojman

In memory of Mary Mesnier
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh H. Hudson

In memory of Gertrude M. Newman
Marie Harrington

In memory of Marion C. Rysdorp
Jane & Gordon Dolton

In memory of Catherin F. Shea
Mr. & Mrs. Edward D. White III
Ruth & Robert Halpenny

In memory of Nellie Toney
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

In memory of Alex H. Warner
Mrs. Alex H. Warner

You may make a contribution to the Gardens in memory or in honor of someone you love. It's a thoughtful tribute and a helpful gift to your institution. Please call 303-370-8064 for information.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206-3799
Address correction requested
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July

July						
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August						
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27	28	29	30	31		

Coming Up: Classes are in italics. An * indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For **course information** refer to DBG's summer Education Programs or 303-370-8020. For **current DBG events information**: 303-370-8187. For current plant and arts **society meeting information**: 303-370-8097.

July

1 Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream
Free day at Chatfield Arboretum

2 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum tour
Japanese Tea Ceremony

4 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

6 * *Budget Flower Arranging*
* *Starting to Draw Flowers*
* *Museum & DBG: Natural History Comes Alive*

7 Concert: Brothers & Sisters, from Bravo! Colorado

8 Mile High Daylily Society show
Summer Rose Care
Rocky Mountain National Park
Japanese Tea Ceremony
Rocky Mountain Orchid Judging Center meeting

8, 9 Mile High Daylily Society sale

9 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
* *Garden Troubleshooting*
Japanese Tea Ceremony
Chatfield Arboretum tour

10 * *Raffia Hat*
* *Beginning Bonsai II*
Colorado Mycological Society meeting
Glass Artists Fellowship meeting

11 * *Dry It. You'll Like It*
* *Make a Twig Trellis*
Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting

12 Concert: Manhattan Rhythm Kings
* *Plants as Educational Tools (K-8)*
Flowers of the Alpine: Loveland Pass
Denver Rose Society meeting

13 BirdHaus Bash Preview Garden Party & Auction

14-30 BirdHaus display

15 *Birdhouse Basics*
Close-up Flower Photography

16 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum tour
Japanese Tea Ceremony
Members' Picnic at Chatfield Arboretum

18 *Miniature Roses*
Colorado Butterflies
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

19 *Budget Flower Arranging II*

20 Concert: Wind Machine

21-30 Colorado Watercolor Society show

22 Iris Rhizome Sale
Chatfield Butterfly Census
Japanese Tea Ceremony
Boreas Pass
Care & Handling of Cut Flowers

23 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum tour
Cooking with Judith Fine-Sarchielli: Al Fresco Dining

24 *Ideas from DBG's Cutting Garden*

25 * *Iridescent Buzzing Bombers: Hummingbirds*
* *Further Techniques in Drawing Flowers*

26 Children's concert: Lois LaFond & One World
* *Watercolor Painting II*

27 * *Branch Out: Basic Plant Science for Teachers*
Gardeners of America meeting

29 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

30 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum tour

August

1 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

2 Members' preview of Glass at the Gardens – free!

2-13 Glass at the Gardens stained glass show

3 Concert: Charlie Haden & Quartet West

4 *Wildflower Effects*

5 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
Scripture Garden Walk
Japanese Tea Ceremony

6 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Japanese Tea Ceremony
Chatfield Arboretum tour

8 Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting

9 *From Cuts to Creations I*

10 Denver Rose Society meeting

12 *Herb Trip to the Boulder Market*
From Cuts to Creations II
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Cooking with Judith Fine-Sarchielli:Hot Tomatoes and Cool Chiles
Chatfield Arboretum tour
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Gardens of the Americas
North American Rock Garden Society, Rocky Mountain Chapter meeting

17 Concert: Turtle Island String Quartet

19 Colorado Mycological Society Mushroom Fair
Where the Wild Ones Are: Wheat Ridge Green Belt
Drying Flowers for Bouquets
Japanese Tea Ceremony
Breakfast & Tour for Botanist Club level members and above – free!

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Aquatic Plant Walk
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21 *Worth a Million: Sunflowers*

24 Concert: Tuck & Patti
Gardeners of America meeting

26, 27 Chile Harvest Festival
Kidding Around: Hummingbird Headdresses

Green Thumb News

Denver Botanic Gardens **August 1995**

Crafts, entertainment, 'salsa taste-off' sizzle at third annual Chile Harvest Festival at the Gardens

The third annual Chile Harvest Festival, co-sponsored by Chicano Humanities and Arts Council and Denver Botanic Gardens, will heat up at the Gardens Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 26 and 27, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The popular family event celebrates Colorado's Spanish colonial heritage with art, food and entertainment in the spirit of the modern Southwest.

New to the festival this year will be a "salsa taste-off" sponsored by Mission Foods. Four restaurants will supply free salsa samplings with chips provided by Mission Foods. After you've sampled, you can cast your vote for the vendor with your favorite salsa flavor.

The festival will bustle with artisans, entertainers and food. DBG's famous chile gardens will feature more than 150 different varieties of chiles, and trained staff and volunteers will be available to offer tours of the chile gardens. The amphitheater stage will present a weekend-long procession of singers, dancers and other entertainers from throughout the Southwest.

Children will have the opportunity to create their own hummingbird headdress at the "Kidding Around" station in the lobby court. They also can see a display of an Aztec market with exotic fruits and vegetables of Mexico.

A colorful painting in the style of traditional *retablos*, commissioned from Denver artist Carlos Fresquez, will be printed on commemorative T-shirts and limited-edition posters. Fresquez will be on hand to answer questions and sign posters during segments of the festival.

Spanish colonial folk art will be recognized in demonstrations by modern-day practitioners from Colorado and New Mexico. Visitors can watch as tin workers, furniture makers, weavers, quilt makers, straw weavers, santeros (carvers of religious figures) and adobe workers create their works. Among the artisans will be Tom Garcia, adobe maker; Eppie Archuleta, weaver; and Arturo Rodriguez, Antonio Martinez and Carlos Santistevan, santeros.

As an added treat, visitors can see how chiles are strung in traditional *ristras* that decorate doorways and kitchens of Southwestern homes.

Other artists – some 40 in all – will be on hand to sell their creations in both traditional Mexican-

(Continued on page 3: "Crafts, entertainment ...")

Carlos Fresquez' San Isidro, El Labrador *was commissioned as the image for the '95 Chile Harvest Festival.*

(Please see page 6.)

Midsummer flowers, jazz, ballet and pops await concert fans

As the annual displays at Denver Botanic Gardens burst into full bloom this month, performers in the Summer Series of concerts continue to entertain music-loving picnickers into the night.

Charlie Haden & Quartet West opens the month Thursday, Aug. 3. Haden has contributed to many of the most compelling records in jazz. He has been called a poet of the bass, and his appearance this summer with Quartet West is a rare honor. With saxophonist Ernie Watts, pianist Allan Broadbent and drummer Larance Marable, the quartet will create a music evoking the film noir atmosphere of Raymond Chandler's 1940s Hollywood.

Parents should bring their children to A Children's Rainforest Odyssey Wednesday, Aug. 16. Colorado's acclaimed David Taylor Dance Theatre will perform this multi-dance program that premiered this summer at the Auditorium Theatre. The work is an exciting artistic interpretation and exploration of a living rainforest, and what better location than Denver Botanic Gardens to explore, through

(Continued on page 6: "Concerts continue ...")

Inside this GTN:

A record number of species are expected at this year's mushroom fair.

– page 3

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Five college interns arrive for horticultural experience

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Hort therapist Haller tells of her trip to Moscow.

– page 5

•

Zeiner retires from DBG herbarium after 33 years.

– page 6

From the executive director

The executive directors of 10 of America's largest and most prominent botanic gardens met at Denver Botanic Gardens in June. This first-ever meeting of such a group brought together directors from DBG, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, The Morton Arboretum, Atlanta Botanical Garden, Fairchild Tropical Garden, The Dawes Arboretum, Desert Botanical Gardens, Franklin Park Conservatory, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens.

While there are 400 botanic gardens in America, many of whom participate in a large annual meeting of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, there are relatively few gardens the size and stature of ours.

While visiting DBG, the directors explored an enormous range of topics – from new approaches to personnel policies, training for directors and public relations, to the need to attract diverse audiences and to increase earned income. We also discussed producing joint exhibits or other ventures.

Membership sizes among gardens with multi-million-dollar budgets range widely, with most in the 6,000 to 10,000 range. DBG, with more than 12,000 members, is one of the largest. And our volunteer support ranks highest.

Most of the executive directors are looking for ways to diversify their institutions' sources of income to stabilize funding, since sources can vary widely year to year.

All the directors recognized a common need to show the public that we are far more than pleasure gardens—though we are that. We each are unique, but we are joined by our goal to expand the appreciation and understanding of plants and by our commitment to plant conservation.

I encourage all our members to visit other botanic gardens, enjoy them and learn from them, and let me know what you like best about them, and what we might try here.

– Richard H. Daley
Executive Director

Right: *Botanic garden directors from across the country gathered in Denver early in the summer to discuss their common goals and challenges.* Left to right, at top: *Brinsley Burbidge, Fairchild Tropical Garden, and Mark Bierner, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens.* Second row from back: *Roy Taylor, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden; Gerry Donnelly, The Morton Arboretum; Brent Dennis, Franklin Park Conservatory; and Alston Glenn, Atlanta Botanical Garden.* Center of photo: *Judy Zuk, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and Rick Daley, DBG.* Front: *Don Hendricks, The Dawes Arboretum, and Carolyn O'Malley, Desert Botanical Gardens.*

Former DBG curator Kawahara honored as 'Bonsai Artist of Year'

June 16 Kai Kawahara, former curator of DBG's Japanese garden, was given his second "Bonsai Artist of the Year" award by the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society.

Kawahara has been associated with the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society since its origin as the Denver Junior Bonsai Club in 1969-1970. His skills with plants include both Japanese gardens care and bonsai artistry. He was an early instructor of other members of the bonsai society.

In recognition of his bonsai skills, the quality of his bonsai collection and the contributions he made to the society, Kawahara was awarded the society's first "Bonsai Artist of the Year" award in 1987. He also has received the titles, "Master of Bonsai" and "Master of Japanese Gardens" from the Japan Gardening Society.

Kawahara joined the DBG staff when the Japanese garden, named *Shofu-en,* Garden of Pine Wind, was being installed in 1979. He and other members of the society collected the ponderosa pines that currently adorn the garden. The trees are difficult to transplant and maintain, and some are more than 100 years old. Despite the difficulties of moving, planting and caring for them, Kawahara was able to successfully maintain and improve these trees.

Kawahara resigned as DBG curator in December 1993.

Green Thumb News
August 1995

Published monthly by the Marketing and Special Events Department of Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206

Editor: Larry Latta, 370-8033
Deadline for October issue: August 18

Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum are established and maintained by Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc., for the people of the City and County of Denver and for the general public in cooperation with the Denver Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Botanic Gardens is also grateful for funds from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which enable the Gardens to expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Gardening fair workshops, lectures, tours at DBG Sept. 15 to 17 to say, 'Fall is for gardening'

If spring's cold, rainy weather kept you from planting the garden of your dreams, you should attend DBG's second annual Fall Gardening Fair Sept. 15 to 17. The programs are co-sponsored by Denver Botanic Gardens, Colorado Greenhouse Growers Association and Garden Centers of Colorado.

The fair begins with a Perennial Plant Association workshop Friday. The association will present lectures by horticultural experts Kelly Grummons, head horticulturist for Paulino's Nursery, and Brent Heath, owner of The Daffodil Mart in Virginia.

Grummons will share information on many new and exciting Rocky Mountain region perennials. He is known throughout the area as a grower of perennials and has introduced unusual plants he has found on his seed collecting trips in the region. His slide program begins at 2 p.m.

At 7 p.m. Heath will present "Bulbs As Companion Plants." In his lecture he will reveal the secrets of interplanting bulbs with a broad range of annuals, perennials, ground covers and shrubs to improve your home grounds.

Lectures are in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Cost for each of the Perennial Plant Association's lectures is $10 if registration is received by Sept. 2, $12.50 afterward. Cost for both lectures is $17.50 for early registration, $22.50 thereafter. For more information or a reservation form, please call 427-8132 or FAX a message to 427-8139. VISA, MasterCard or Discovery Card are accepted.

Workshops, demonstrations and tours of selected gardens will round out activities through the weekend, beginning each day at 9:30 a.m. Some of the topics you can learn about are how to revitalize your perennial bed, extend the fall season with colorful plantings, choose beginner and connoisseur perennials, attract birds to your yard, care for your roses and get plants to bloom on your windowsills this winter. In addition, Heath will present a second lecture, "A Walk on the Wild Side," Saturday that will introduce bulbs that naturalize beautifully in landscapes.

Local plant societies will staff booths to answer questions on orchids, daylilies, irises, water gardens, African violets, cacti and other plants. Children attending the fair can take part in horticultural make-it-and-take-it activities.

Whether you are a beginning or advanced gardener, you will find valuable ideas during the fair and discover why fall is a great time to garden.

All programs except Friday's lectures are included in DBG's standard admission fees.

Mushroomers predict record number of species at Aug. 20 fair; expert Lincoff to speak Aug. 21

Fungus forecasters are predicting a banner year for mushrooms as a result of this year's late-winter and spring precipitation, and members of the Colorado Mycological Society hope to collect and identify more than the usual 200 species for their 19th annual Mushroom Fair at Denver Botanic Gardens Sunday, Aug. 20.

In addition to hundreds of identified fresh specimens, members of the society will display city mushrooms, edible and poisonous species, and mushrooms in natural habitat settings.

Popular author, traveler and lecturer Gary Lincoff, past president of the North American Mycological Association, will serve as chief identifier. Several mycological society members also will be on hand to answer questions.

Field guides, cookbooks, T-shirts, mushroom photography and crafts will be for sale at the fair, and DBG's Helen Fowler Library and mycological herbarium, and the Rocky Mountain Poison Center will mount educational displays.

The following Monday, July 21, Lincoff will speak on "A User Friendly Approach to Mushroom Identification" at 7:30 p.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Sponsored by the mycological society, his lecture is open to DBG members.

Sunday's fair is included in DBG's standard admission fees (free to members), and fair goers are invited to bring mushrooms for identification.

For more information contact Kristin or Terry Philbin, 933-2595, or Marilyn Shaw, 377-1278.

Crafts, entertainment ...

(continued from page 1)

American and modern Chicano idioms.

The most convenient parking will be a cool double-decker bus ride away, on the south side of the Target store parking lot at 4301 E. Virginia Ave. (Look for "DBG Event Parking" signs.) The free buses will ply frequently between the lot and the Gardens from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All entertainment is included in DBG's regular admission fees (free to members). For more information call the DBG special events line, 370-8187.

Writers Belsinger, Proctor keynote two-day herbs workshop

DBG's horticultural therapy program is sponsoring "Herbs — A Celebration!" featuring speakers, tours, booths, demonstrations and children's activities Sept. 29 and 30.

Friday, Susan Belsinger, co-author of *Chile Pepper Book, The Garlic Book* and *Herbs in the Kitchen,* will lecture on cooking with herbs, and Rob Proctor, columnist for the Herb Companion, will talk about growing herbs.

Some of Saturday's events include herbal and book displays and herb sales. Guides will be available to conduct free tours of the herb garden, and booths and demonstrations will fill John C. Mitchell II Hall. Children can enjoy several herb-oriented activities throughout the day.

The two-day celebration will be filled with new ideas for the amateur as well as the seasoned herb gardener. Look for more information in the next *Green Thumb News.*

DPS teacher at DBG for children's science

Patsy Hall, seventh-grade science teacher at Merrill Middle School in Denver, is spending her summer working in the DBG education department. She has been at Chatfield Arboretum most of her eight weeks, developing materials on riparian ecosystems for parents and teachers to share with children.

Hall's employment at the Gardens is part of an ongoing relationship with the Colorado Alliance for Science, where one educator each summer works on education programs and activities while gaining knowledge about careers and business opportunities to pass along to students.

Gift Shop offers savings

Denver Botanic Gardens' Gift Shop offers year-round 10-percent savings to DBG members on purchases of $10 or more. It is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The shop specializes in books, home accessories, garden ornaments, cards and calendars for gardeners and other nature lovers.

Five horticulture interns train at the Gardens

Five college students arrived at the Gardens in mid-June for a summer of educational enrichment and hands-on training as interns in applied horticulture.

Gail Wagner and Jeanne Rudski are training under two Alice Mann Owen internships. Wagner is a student at Front Range Community College working toward a degree in landscape design. She has degrees in fine arts from the University of Colorado, Boulder. While at CU she won a grant to convert an area on campus from bluegrass to prairie grasses and wildflowers.

Rudski, a student at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., is pursuing a degree in horticulture. She will seek an extended horticultural internship following graduation. She then hopes to enter the master's degree program in public horticultural administration at Longwood Gardens.

Peter Maloney and Amy Comfort are studying at the Gardens through two Beatrice B. Taplin internships in applied horticulture. Maloney has a bachelor's degree from California State University, Hayward, Calif., and is studying landscape horticulture and nursery management at Merritt College, Oakland, Calif. He is a re-entry student who has changed his career path to horticulture.

Comfort is pursing a master's degree in biological sciences with an emphasis in botany at the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. She manages UNC's greenhouse and is a member of Xericape! Colorado and the Colorado Native Plant Society.

Samantha Link was awarded this year's Clara Van Schaak Phipps internship. Link is a student at the University of Nebraska pursuing a bachelor's degree in horticulture with an emphasis in landscape design. She works in the greenhouse at the university and is a teacher assistant for the introductory horticultural labs.

DBG's internships are partially underwritten by gifts from Denver Botanic Gardens Guild, Associates of Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver Chapter of Gardeners of America and other organizations and individuals. The internships offer college students an opportunity to work alongside the Gardens' professional staff. Field trips, projects and lectures help round out the program of Front Range horticulture.

Hort therapist visits Russian colleagues

DBG horticultural therapist Rebecca Haller traveled to Moscow in June to tailor a training curriculum for health care professionals of the Moscow Professional-Technical Academy for Persons with Physical and Mental Disabilities. The program uses plants and gardening in vocational therapy. Following is her account of the trip. – Ed.

Within hours of arriving in Moscow, I had caught the enthusiasm of Natasha Skreebunova, Moscow director of agricultural initiatives for the San Francisco-based Center for Citizen Initiatives (CCI). Acting as interpreter, cultural guide, and friend, she and our driver Leonid Levitin whisked us around the crowded city for nine days to meet with people who benefit from and influence the program we had come to see – a vocational horticulture school for people with disabilities.

Denver Botanic Gardens' horticultural therapy program and Melwood Training Center in Maryland were selected from a nationwide pool of applicants to provide technical assistance to the Moscow Professional-Technical Academy #2. The trip was funded by CCI. The group also gathered information for the next phase of this project – to bring the staff from Moscow to Denver Botanic Gardens and Melwood for specialized training in the vocational aspects of horticultural therapy. During the course of our Russian visit, we not only gave ideas, motivation and solutions, but gained them as well.

In Russia, human service professionals tend to be dedicated but underpaid. It was inspiring to see the extreme commitment exhibited by the teachers and trainers at the academy. Under the leadership of Zinaida Kadomets, an energetic 60-year-old woman with a ready smile, the school trains young people with a variety of disabilities to work in horticulture. With class sizes of around 30 students per teacher, they manage to spend much of the growing season outdoors in practical experiences.

The students work in several of the city's parks, performing much needed planting and maintenance. Classroom and field experiences include landscape design, dendrology, soil science, ornamentals, floral "decoration," disease and pest control and landscape maintenance.

Impressed by the eagerness of the students, I watched as they gathered herbarium specimens for their individual collections. Clearly the school provides an environment where each person's abilities are emphasized over his or her disabilities. Most of the students I met want to work, be productive and be accepted in their community. In a country where people with even mild disabilities often live in institutions, the students' efforts are remarkable.

DBG's horticultural therapy program helps people with disabilities like this young man to find employment in horticulture.

The students and graduates of the academy we talked to work in a city greenhouse, a home for 600 children with disabilities, and government offices. The challenges these students face are twofold. First, they face the challenge of a lack of public acceptance of people with disabilities. Second, they are confronted with a lack of job development in horticulture, because the average person cannot afford to buy ornamental plants. While trees are plentiful throughout the city, flowers and houseplants are not.

Yet the people have a strong tradition of growing food: Some Moscovites own small plots of land outside the city where they grow potatoes, other vegetables, herbs and flowers. An important source of fresh vegetables, these "dacha" also provide solace and food for the spirit to the residents of this bustling city of 12 million people.

During this era of rapid Russian transition to a free-market economy, and a growing awareness of environmental degradation, efforts at greening and employing people with "varied abilities" may work hand-in-hand to provide better lives for people in Moscow and throughout Russia. With more similarities than differences between our countries on a people-to-people level, we share dreams and challenges. With organizations such as the Center for Citizen Initiatives and Denver Botanic Gardens, with its horticultural therapy program, we can make a difference.

– Rebecca Haller
DBG Horticultural Therapist

Dr. Helen Zeiner retires as curator of DBG's Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium

Helen Zeiner, Ph.D., resigned in June as honorary curator of DBG's Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium. Zeiner has overseen the DBG herbarium collection since 1962, working with other volunteers to increase its specimens from just more than 2,000 sheets to its present count of 31,000, the fourth largest reference collection for plant identification in the state.

Right:
Dr. Zeiner received a Resolution of Appreciation from Donald J. Kaney, President, on behalf of theDBG board of trustees.
Far Right:
Velma Richards, herbarium volunteer and former publications editor, was one of many who shared memories with Zeiner at the June 27 reception in honor of her ritirement.

Zeiner's doctorate from Indiana University is in botany, A former schoolteacher, she is known, especially, for her love of the Rocky Mountains, fishing and, botanically, her study and knowledge of the grasses.

She has been influential in many educational programs at the Gardens. Over the years she has contrubuted editorial assistance and innumerable articles to DBG's *Green Thumb Magazine* (precourser to *Mountain Plain and Garden*) and other publications. She was an active member of the education committee of the board of trustees, a founding member of the Around the Seasons Club and a trainer for DBG's tour guides.

She wrote a long-running series of articles on houseplants for the *Rocky Mountain News*. A patient teacher, she has led many mountain field trips and has lectured about plants at the Gardens and elsewhere.

In 1973, in recognition of the value of her service, she was designated honorary curator.

At a reception in honor of her retirement June 27 – attended by numerous friends and DBG trustees, staff and volunteers – Zeiner was presented with a resolution of appreciation by the DBG board of trustees.

The herbarium, named for its volunteer founding manager, will be under the management of Dr. Janet Wingate, formerly an herbarium volunteer, who contributed illustrations for DBG's *Meet the Natives* wildflower book and other guides to native wildflowers.

Concerts continue ...

(continued from page 1)

music and dance, the wonders of a vanishing ecosystem.

Thursday, Aug. 17, Turtle Island String Quartet will perform its special combination of jazz, classical, bluegrass and blues. As the musicians, Darol Anger, Tracy Silverman, Danny Seidenberg and Mark Summer, perform Gillespie, Gershwin, Ellington, Billy Taylor or their own compositions, the audience will be captivated by the innovative sounds.

Finally, Tuck and Patti wrap up the summer Thursday, Aug. 24, by bringing their one-of-a-kind melding of folk, pop and a little jazz to star-gazing listeners. Singer Patti Cathcart's gorgeous vocals interweave with Tuck Andress' complex guitar lines to create a special finale to the 1995 concerts.

The DBG Summer Series is presented by *The Denver Post,* sponsored by KVOD-FM 99.5 and Great-West Life, and produced by Jim Sprinkle Productions. The Gardens also thanks MetraHealth for its support.

All performances begin at 7:15 p.m., except for Rainforest Odyssey, which begins at 7 p.m. Concertgoers should plan on parking at DBG's free satellite parking lot — at the Glendale Target, 4301 E. Virginia Ave. — and riding the free double decker buses to and from the Gardens. The buses will ply listeners back and forth frequently from 4:30 to 10 p.m. Bus riders will have the chance to win two Continental Airline tickets.

Concert ticket prices vary. They may be purchased at 777-7372 or at the DBG gate house, 1005 York St.

Carlos Fresquez Picked for Chile Festival Art

Carlos Fresquez' "San Isidro, El Labrador" was selected as the artwork for the 1995 Chile Harvest Festival posters and T-shirts.

Fresquez is a third-generation Coloradan working on his master of fine arts degree at the University of Colorado. His art is exhibited at the Ink Fish Gallery in Denver and at the McClaren Markowitz Gallery in Boulder. He was commissioned to provide the Chile Harvest Festival art by Chicano Humanities and Arts Council, DBG's co-sponsor for the event.

His brightly colored acrylic painting on Masonite was created in a contemporary *retablo* format. The work was inspired by an ancestor of the 1700s, Pedro Antonio Fresquez, who founded the New Mexico *santero* movement. Fresquez has followed this tradition in a contemporary vein.

Decorator posters and T-shirts with the "San Isidro, El Labrador" image will be sold at the festival Aug. 26 and 27 and in the DBG Gift Shop.

Join kids to make hummingbird head-dress at Chile Festival

Children of all ages are invited to explore the world of the Aztecs during "Kidding Around" at the Chile Harvest Festival Aug. 26 and 27. Children who visit the Gardens from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day will be able to create their own ceremonial Aztec "hummingbird" headdress then pretend they are kings and queens preparing for a royal ceremony.

Free admission at Denver's major SCFD cultural institutions

Denver's four Tier 1 cultural institutions offer free admission for Colorado residents throughout the year, thanks in part to funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District. Free days in August are:

- Chatfield Arboretum, Saturday, Aug. 5
- Denver Botanic Gardens, Sundays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Denver Art Museum, Saturdays.

A complete wallet-size schedule of '95 free days is available at the information desk in DBG's lobby court.

Special thanks to DBG Four Seasons members

Denver Botanic Gardens welcomes the following Four Seasons members who began or renewed their membership during the second quarter of 1995:

Mrs. George G. Anderman
Mrs. Katherine W. Beise
Mr. E. R. Bigelow
Mr. & Mrs. Bjorn K. Borgen
Mrs. Louis Charsky
Mr. & Mrs. George R. Cannon
Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Davison
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert L. Fenster
Mrs. J. Ramsay Harris
Dr. & Mrs. A. J. Kauvar
Mr. & Mrs. James B. Kurtz
Mr. & Mrs. William C. Kurtz, Jr.
Mrs. Charles S. Sterne
Mr. & Mrs. L. Clark Tierney, Jr.
Miss Janet M . Wierman

Four Seasons members, whose gifts of $1,000 or more provide important support to the ongoing operation of the Gardens' research, education and horticultural programs, receive many enjoyable exclusive membership benefits. For information call 370-8027.

From your membership office:

The goblins need volunteers

You can help a child create a creepy craft, play ghoulish games or hand out monster munchies. Volunteer opportunities will be abundant at DBG's annual members Halloween celebration, "Goblins in the Gardens," Sunday, Oct. 29, from 1 to 6:30 p.m. To join the fun or receive more information please call 370-8021.

Breakfast and early morning tour

Members at the Botanist Club level and above are invited to enjoy a continental breakfast at DBG's Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center (located across York Street from the Gardens' main entrance) Saturday, Aug. 19, at 8 a.m. After the breakfast, tours of the Morrison Center's sensory garden will be given by trained volunteers. For information or to make reservations call Amy Capra, 370-8021.

A great time to renew

If someone you know has been thinking of joining the Gardens, or if you will need to renew your membership soon, plan on signing up for a membership during the Chile Harvest Festival Aug. 26 and 27. You will receive a set of '92 and '93 Chile Harvest Festival posters while supplies last. If you need to renew your membership before the festival, just write "Chile Poster" at the top of the membership application form, and a coupon for the poster set will be sent to you. You can redeam your coupon at the membership table at the Chile Harvest Festival. For more information call 370-8029.

Family Day celebration at art museum

Inspired by the exhibition Jacob Lawrence, The Migration Series, currently at the Denver Art Museum, the museum's third annual Family Day will celebrate African American music, art and culture with vendors, performances and in-gallery demonstrations Sunday, Aug. 13, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Admission will be free.

The museum's program is part of the "Explore Our World" series of family events presented by SCFD Tier 1 organizations in cooperation with Continental Airlines. For information on the museum's program call 640-2793.

Special
For DBG Members

You're invited to Preview "Glass at the Gardens"

Wednesday, August 2
7 to 8:30 p.m.

John C. Mitchell II Hall
1005 York St.

Wine and cheese will be served.

RSVP: 370-8021 by Tuesday, August 1

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
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Denver, Colorado 80206-3799
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August

August

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27	28	29	30	31		

Coming Up: Classes are in italics. An * indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For **course information** refer to DBG's summer *Education Programs* or 303-370-8020. For **current DBG events information**: 303-370-8187. For current plant and arts **society meeting information**: 303-370-8097.

August

1 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

2 Members' preview of Glass at the Gardens – free!

2-13 Glass at the Gardens glass arts show

3 Concert: Charlie Haden & Quartet West

4 *Wildflower Effects*

5 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
Scripture Garden Walk
Japanese Tea Ceremony

6 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Japanese Tea Ceremony
Chatfield Arboretum tour

8 Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting

9 *From Cuts to Creations I*

10 Denver Rose Society meeting

12 *Herb Trip to the Boulder Market*
From Cuts to Creations II
Rocky Mountain Orchid Judging Center meeting

13 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
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21 *Worth a Million: Sunflowers*

24 Concert: Tuck & Patti
Gardeners of America meeting

26, 27 Chile Harvest Festival
Kidding Around: Hummingbird Headdresses

26 *The Wild Side of Cherry Creek Drive*
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

27 Free admission to the Gardens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum tour

Fete des Fleurs

*Please reserve*_____ *tickets at $175 per person*
*Please reserve*_____ *Patron Level tickets at $250 per person*
For *Fete des Fleurs* at Denver Botanic Gardens, 1005 York St.
Reservations are due by August 25, 1995.

Name(s)_____

Address_____

Phone_____

Amount enclosed $_____

Please make checks payable to Denver Botanic Gardens Fete des Fleurs. Your check is your reservation. You may list seating preferences on an enclosed note.

Mail to: Fete des Fleurs
Mrs. Michael S. Whitcomb
55 Dahlia Street
Denver, CO 80220

I am unable to attend, but would like to support Denver Botanic Gardens with the enclosed contribution of _____ .

A MAJOR BENEFIT FOR
DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

A GALA EVENING OF DINING AND DANCING
UNDER THE STARS

Thursday, the seventh of September
1995
at half after six o'clock

Denver Botanic Gardens

BLACK TIE
CATERING BY LE PETIT GOURMET
JERRY BARNETT ORCHESTRA

$175 per person
$250 per person Patron Level

Amount in excess of $75 per ticket is tax-deductible within the limits of the law.

Proceeds will support educational programming, including horticultural therapy and community outreach, at Denver Botanic Gardens.

For more information, please call
Molly Williams, 303-370-8027

Green Thumb News

Denver Botanic Gardens October 1995

Food, hayrides, crafts and games:

Chatfield Pumpkin Fest

You can capture the spirit of family fun and the fall harvest at the seventh annual Pumpkin Festival at Chatfield Arboretum Saturday, Oct. 14.

It's a day for all – children and adults – to indulge in the harvest. The pumpkin patch is nearly twice as large as in the past – four-and-one-half acres – and will be packed with vine-ripened pumpkins of all shapes and sizes. Prices of the harvested goods range from 50 cents to $10, although the enormous Atlantic Giant pumpkins and a few other varieties may cost up to $20, depending on size.

And there's more to the patch than just orange! The entrance courtyard will be adorned with sunflowers, chiles, amaranth, millet, quinoa and more. A colorful array of squash and gourd varieties will round out the patch. You can learn about these interesting, edible and decorative plants before or after you pick out you pumpkin.

Throughout the day KOOL radio will entertain with family tunes, and various craft and children's activities return by popular demand. As in years past, hayrack rides will be available to and from the patch and parking areas. New to the festival this year is live music and a hay bale maze for children.

Arboretum volunteers will sell dried flowers, wooden crafts and baked goods. The Boulder Farmer's Market will have fresh produce and cut flowers available for purchase, and other vendors will be selling hand-crafted items, children's books and seasonal goodies. You can take your memories home with a Pumpkin Festival snapshot of the family against a beautiful harvest backdrop.

After you've worked up an appetite picking your pumpkins, stop by one of the food booths – the Sub Station, Philadelphia Philly, "The Kids' Snack Patch" by The Plaza or Rosa Linda's Mexican Cafe – to renourish with festive food and drinks. Free food samples provided by KOOL radio sponsors, such as The Turkey Store, also will be available.

Admission is free for children 15 and younger and for DBG members who show their membership cards. Cost for nonmembers and children 16 years and older is $2 each. Serious pumpkin harvesters should bring along a wagon, wheelbarrow or extra stroller to ease the pumpkin-carrying burden. Please, leave your pets at home.

For more information, call 973-3705.

John Fielder will show scenes from Rocky Mountain National Park – and from his new pictorial book – at the Gardens Oct. 11. (Please see page 8.)

Three visionaries share plants and styles for Western gardening

Inspired by the open vistas, rugged landscapes and arid climate of the West, regional gardeners are developing a regional expression of place and style. It reflects the richness and flamboyance of native flowers coupled with classic perennial garden style. The trick has been finding plants to create the gardens of their dreams.

Saturday, Nov. 11, three of the region's leading gardening visionaries will consider characteristics that make the gardens and plants of this region unique. In the day-long symposium the speakers will show how landscapes with a Rocky Mountain sense of place have been developed.

Charles Mann, noted for his stunning photographs of plants and gardens of the Southwest, will tour premier gardens in his presentation, "The Essence of Place." Mann will show private gardens rarely open to the

(Continued on page 6: "Three visionaries...")

Inside this GTN:

Who invented the Italian garden? – *page 3*

•

Autumn is a good time to enjoy the grasses. – *page 4*

•

Enter the '96 photo contest. – *page 5*

•

October will be a busy time for members. Then May brings trip to Ireland. – *page 7*

Cultural institutions offer free days

All four major cultural institutions will offer free days in October thanks, in part, to the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District:

- Denver Art Museum, every Saturday
- Denver Museum of Natural History, Tuesday, Oct. 3
- DBG's Chatfield Arboretum, Saturday, Oct. 7
- Denver Zoo, Thursday, Oct. 26

A complete schedule of the remaining 1995 free days is available at DBG's information desk.

From the executive director

This November voters in the six-county metro area will be asked to approve a measure that would greatly benefit Colorado's cultural institutions—including Denver Botanic Gardens—while successfully solving a difficult administrative issue involving funds collected by the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District in behalf of those institutions.

Amendment One (the TABOR Amendment) approved by voters in 1992 requires that sales tax funds collected for SCFD beyond a certain limit be refunded to the taxpayers. This refund was $1.35 per taxpayer in the six-county area in 1994 and was distributed through a credit by Public Service Co. to each of its customers.

But Public Service Co. has indicated it cannot make the refunds this year, leaving SCFD no reasonable way to distribute about $1.44 to each taxpayer in the district. It would cost SCFD $320,000 to mail a check to each household. The time, effort and cost to return the surplus revenues just doesn't seem to make sense.

That's why the SCFD board is placing a measure on this November's ballot to waive the small refund. Instead, SCFD would disperse the surplus funds to qualifying organizations—including DBG—through the district's established funding formula. This would not be a tax increase, but merely the distribution of all sales taxes collected for the SCFD to district organizations.

The total amount of the surplus, $2.1 million, when distributed among SCFD institutions, would benefit the entire area.
At DBG, these funds strengthen our educational programming, allow school children to visit the Gardens, help offset the cost of free days for the public and support our research efforts.

Twice in the past, in 1988 and 1992, voters have approved the SCFD and its support for cultural institutions that are accountable, accessible and responsive to the community.

We believe the sensible solution is to allow SCFD to distribute all the funds it collects to recipient organizations
in keeping with the original intent of the electorate, and so we urge you to vote "yes" on ballot question 4A this Nov. 7.

– Richard H. Daley
Executive Director

DBG welcomes new neighbor trustees

Denver Botanic Gardens welcomed the appointment by Mayor Wellington Webb of two new trustees to the Gardens' governing board. The trustees will represent neighborhood organizations from the areas surrounding the Gardens.

Charlotte D. Redden is the owner of Step Up Projects for Business. Walter A. Lowry is president of Lowry Resources Inc., a petroleum engineering and consulting firm. The addition of the two mayoral appointees to the DBG board is part of a general agreement with neighborhood groups reached this spring.

The agreement also calls for the formation of a new neighborhood advisory committee composed of representatives of neighborhood groups and the establishment of a public review process for major modifications at the Gardens. The advisory committee will provide community comment to the Gardens about the impact of new facilities and programs on adjacent residential areas.

BirdHaus winners

DBG visitors during July voted Judith Helen Green's "Byrd Towers – Of Feathered Wings & Faery Things" the people's choice award in the BirdHaus Bash competition.

The miniature condo, managed and kept by the faeries, according to Green, is a multi-level Victorian structure complete with a nursery, treasure room, "brydal" suite, hanging gold birdcage and even resident mice and squirrels! Green was awarded a DBG Arbor Circle membership.

"Bird House Condo," a tree-twig-and-plaster of paris creation submitted by students at Colorado Academy, won the grand prize of $1,000. Contest judges based their decision on originality, craftsmanship, functionality, humor and whimsy.

The competition, which premiered at the Gardens this year, drew 176 entries from artists, students, children, architects and bird lovers from all over the nation.

Green Thumb News
October 1995

Published monthly by the Marketing and Special Events Department of Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206

Editor: Larry Latta, 370-8033
Deadline for December issue: October 13

Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum are established and maintained by Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc., for the people of the City and County of Denver and for the general public in cooperation with the Denver Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Botanic Gardens is also grateful for funds from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which enable the Gardens to expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Private individual support is vital to DBG

From its beginning in 1951 Denver Botanic Gardens has received the support of generous individuals. Private citizens recognized an opportunity to create a major cultural resource whose displays and programs would illustrate the connection between people and plants, and they contributed their resources to it. The investment of the original DBG members some 40 years ago, along with a continuing tradition of support, has allowed DBG to become the premier botanical center between the Midwest and the West Coast.

Today, private support from individuals continues to be a vital component of DBG's operations. Membership dues, while important, account for only a portion of our funding. A gift, in addition to dues, helps the Gardens carry out its mission: to encourage and increase the enjoyment and knowledge of plants and horticulture.

Through DBG's annual appeal members and friends of DBG share in the Gardens' present operations by contributing funds for immediate use. Each gift for current expenditure, whatever the amount, is important; added together they provide the extra measure of support that assures continued excellence for the Gardens' ongoing programs and activities.

Gifts for unrestricted use are especially helpful because they allow DBG the discretion to use them where the funds will do the most good. Unrestricted contributions are allocated by the board of trustees and are typically used to support education programs (for children, adults and teachers), horticulture (to ensure beautiful and well-designed gardens and displays), visitor services and other programs that members and the public enjoy.

DBG's annual appeal will run from October through December. A letter campaign will invite all members' support. Hopefully, the knowledge that such support allows the Gardens to flourish – and that many before you have helped the Gardens become what it is today – will encourage you to invest in the health and future of your Denver Botanic Gardens.

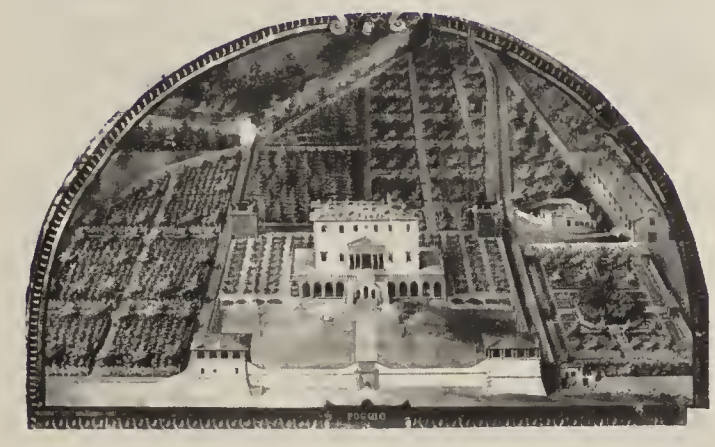
Dixon Hunt to lecture on Italian gardens Oct. 25

John Dixon Hunt, one of the foremost writers on the history and theory of gardens, will answer the question, "Who Invented the Italian Garden?" at the final 1995 Bonfils-Stanton lecture Wednesday, Oct. 25.

An exceptional art form, the Italian Renaissance garden was a sensory experience of sight, hearing, smell, touch and taste. The gardens incorporated terraces, ruins and other features and were composed by architects, poets, humanists and gardeners. Hunt's talk is richly illustrated with slides of modern gardens and with paintings of 16th-century gardens by Gustav Utens.

Chairman of the department of landscape architecture and regional planning at the University of Pennsylvania, Hunt is the former director of studies in landscape architecture at Harvard University's Dumbarton Oaks. He wrote *Gardens and the Picturesque, Studies in the History of Landscape Architecture* and *Garden and Grove*, and is the editor of *Journal of Garden History* and *Word & Image*. He was awarded visiting fellowships in art history at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton and at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Hunt's lecture is at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Cost is $7 for members, $10 for nonmembers. Please call 370-8020 or 370-8019 to register or for more information. Helen Fowler Library will be open from 5 to 7 p.m. the night of the lecture. The Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series has been generously supported by the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation since 1987.



The Modici Villa of Poggio a Caiano by Gustio Utens

Gift shops join to benefit family helpline

The Denver Botanic Gardens Gift Shop will join with other museum, cultural and nonprofit gift shops for "Kaleidoscope" Oct. 27 and 28. The event will directly benefit 4 Parents Helpline, a free and confidential family support service of Community College of Denver.

Shoppers will have an opportunity to buy unique and colorful gifts featured in the DBG Gift Shop and other nonprofit shops in the area.

The annual event is at the Hellenic Community Center, 4610 E. Alameda Ave. The all-day admission is $3 for adults; children younger than 12 will be admitted free. For more information call 620-4444.

Grasses: Grow them for their sensuality

Surprise is my reaction when scanning publications written about ornamental grasses—surprise and puzzlement over the reasons suggested as to why gardeners plant or should plant the family *Poaceae*. Our enlightenment includes statements like: "grasses are a fabulous design tool," "maintenance bargain," "create a certain impact," texture and form," "grasses equal sculpture" or "they play an important transition role." Surely contemporary gardeners haven't lost their senses; perhaps our subconscious is patiently waiting to be reawakened. You should plant those sensual ornamental grasses just for how they make you feel.

Slanting sunbeams backlighting towering Ravenna grass flowers will awaken you at dawn on a fall morning. If you are longing for the sea, the slightest breeze sets grass blades swaying, rippling and rustling almost wavelike in motion, creating for some a near substitute for ocean currents. Wandering in your garden you will find an irresistible need to run your fingers through tufted hairgrass leaves and flowers, and the silky feel of Goliath grass plumes will recall similarities in stroking rabbit ears. Rainfall produces its own sparkle, sheen, glimmer and radiance to arching leaves and airy seedheads.

When the lust to grow ornamental grasses has struck, an opportunity for creative design choices awaits you. Read about grasses, observe grasses (cultivated and wild) and then let your senses go wild. Possibilities include planting grasses (smooth edged varieties) so one has to brush against them along the garden path, placing grasses so that winter shadows and silhouettes are highlighted from your dining table, or transforming your stockade fence into an effective backdrop for *Miscanthus spp.*

Then, the next time someone wonders why you planted grasses among your Japanese anemones, agastaches and salvias, will your response be, "to create some kind of ambience that people respond to?" Or will your feelings speak for grasses that rustle in the wind like a silk slip, are formed from sunlight and create their own visual and musical sonata?

– Suzie Brown
DBG Horticulturist II

Photo of Sonoran Desert by Loraine Yeatts

Yeatts to show desert in '95 Tempel lecture

Loraine Yeatts, noted wildflower photographer and speaker, presents "Wildflowers of the Desert Southwest" as the 1995 Carl W. Tempel Wildflower Lecture Wednesday, Nov. 8. Yeatts, a regional botanist, is known for her stunning photographic programs and has spent more than 30 years studying wildflowers. Her five-year survey of the plants of Rocky Mountain National Park added more than 150 new species to the park's records.

Her lecture will take you on a journey of wildflower discovery in the Chihuahan, Sonoran and Mojave deserts, then to high northern deserts of the Great Basin and Colorado Plateau and, finally, to the desert-like harshness of the alpine tundra. The marvelous diversity of textures and forms of desert plants will provide inspiration for your garden designs.

The Carl W. Tempel Wildflower Lecture was inaugurated in 1979 to honor Major General Carl W. Tempel. The program is in John C. Mitchell II Hall from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Cost is $5 for members, $6 for nonmembers. Helen Fowler Library will stay open from 5 to 7 p.m. the night of the lecture.

Plains garden offers year-round interest

This is a great time of year to wander through the Laura Smith Porter Plains Garden. Many of the grasses and wildflowers are at their peak.

When you visit this garden, you will notice six areas that are separated by sidewalks and paths. Each area represents a different plant community composed of the original prairie plants that would have been found in the tallgrass, mid-grass, shortgrass and sandhill praries.

In late summer and fall most of the grasses are at their best. The big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*) is blooming, and the little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) is a brilliant orange. The Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) still has some golden flowers, and the stipas are particularly striking when backlit by the late afternoon sun.

This year also produced an abundance of wildflowers at DBG – the bush morning glory (*Ipomea leptophylla*) in the sandhills should still be in bloom. The Gardens has a good crop of Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja integra*) and Mexican coneflower (*Ratibida columnifera*).

Some smaller jewels that are often overlooked are penstemons (which are out of bloom at this time), Scarlet Gaura (*Gaura coccinea*) and the Callirhoe (*Callirhoe involucrata*), weaving itself through the grasses. The blazing star (*Liatris punctata*) seems to have reseeded well and is a beautiful purple.

The plains garden has something to offer in all seasons. The garden is never the same from year to year. Different species come to the forefront one year, others the next. The communities are constantly changing and evolving. This year the DBG staff was able to collect seeds from the Pawnee Buttes area, so next year the garden will showcase some additional plants.

HT program prepares the blind for green careers

Beth Gustin's long, delicate fingers lightly touch the length of a lavender stem searching for its blossom. She perfectly lines up several stems and then reaches to her right for the clippers and trims the stems evenly. After tying the bundle with a string she sets them aside with the other bundles for drying. All this is done without the use of her sight; Beth is blind.

The 16-year-old is one of four trainees who spent the summer at DBG's Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center in a vocational training program for people with visual impairments. Harvesting and drying lavender was one of many skills the group learned during the three-month program.

The program is the first of its kind in the area, the result of a collaboration between DBG's innovative horticultural therapy program and the State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The unemployment rate among the blind is between 75 and 80 percent, according to John Cizman, a job placement and training counselor working on the project at the Gardens. "This program is not recreation—it's intended to train people for work," said Cizman. "There is a routine established in the workplace, and the visually impaired need the consistency the green industry has to offer."

The four trainees, ranging in age from 16 to 43, work at the Morrison Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. three days a week. Some days are spent learning basic horticultural tasks—watering, weeding, planting, propagating, identifying plants and maintaining indoor plants. Trainees also tour and observe actual work in different employment settings of the horticulture industry, such as florist shops, public gardens, retail garden centers, production greenhouses and maintained interiorscapes.

By observing many facets of the green industry with them, Cizman can match the trainees to jobs they will enjoy and be suited for once training at Denver Botanic Gardens is complete. With his assistance, Janet Laminack, former DBG horticultural therapy intern, and Amye Smith, current horticultural therapy intern, developed the curriculum and provided the horticultural training the group received.

"Our goal in this vocational component of the horticultural therapy program is to help employers in the green industry hire people with disabilities and serve as a model for the community," explained Laminack. "I have found that each of the trainees in the summer program seem to be employable, each with different skills suited to a specific niche in the horticulture industry. Here are four people who are totally capable."

Cizman was especially impressed with the flower arranging projects the group performed.

"We see flower arranging as being so visual what with combining colors, but I found this wasn't the case. Each person had his or her own way of defining what could go in an arrangement, and they all looked beautiful. I don't see blindness as an obstacle to flower arranging. I'm impressed at how 100-percent able they are through touch to obtain any type of horticulture skill. I find the biggest obstacle they will have to overcome is other people's perceptions of what they can and cannot do."

Overcoming other people's perceptions, including potential employers, is part of Cizman's job now that the formal vocational training is complete. He has six months to find employment for the trainees as part of an agreement with the State Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. Already one trainee, Jeremy Morton, 23, has secured a volunteer position at the new Butterfly Pavilion in Westminster with the hopes of it turning into a paid position.

Jeremy loves working in the greenhouse because he likes "seeing plants that wouldn't grow here naturally." After seven eye surgeries, he is blind in his left eye but has some sight in his right. "I just go day by day. If you worry about what's down the road you don't do what you're supposed to be doing," he said.

With their newfound horticultural skills, the trainees are hopeful that the road will lead to a fulfilling and challenging career.

Cizman said he would love to see the horticultural therapy vocational program proliferate and be a model for other cities because of the success he's already seen this summer. "My feeling all along was that something like this could work. A person who is good at growing things is called a green thumb—so what better tactile work for people who cannot see."

—Christine Kramer
Horticultural Therapy Assistant

'Great Garden' photo contest returns in 1996

Shutterbugs should start using their skills now, while the Gardens is boasting its vibrant fall colors, in preparation for the "Picture a Great Garden" photo contest and show returning to DBG's calendar in 1996.

Your photo may win a first-, second- or third-place prize in either the adult or youth divisions. The top 200 photos entered will be displayed in a special show in John C. Mitchell II Hall in March.

Complete information will be published in the next *Green Thumb News*.

Tributes

In memory of John C. Eaton
S. J. Archuleta
William H. Armstrong Jr.
Mrs. George B. Atwood
Lois R. Badger
Paula & William Bernstein Foundation
Janifer J. Burton
John E. Bush Jr.
Elaine S. Carr
Jana Chalk
Douglas Denio
Cortlandt S. Dietler
Carter E. Dorrell
Ann H. Dowler
Stephen A. Duree
Eva B. Eaton
Kent R. Erickson
Friends at the National Park Service
Lisa M. Haddox
David J. Hammond
Martin J. Harrington Jr.
Clarence Hein
Inge & Chris Jones
Larry N. Kilbom
Gary C. Klein
Robert Locher
John W. McCarthy
Carl E. McConnell
John J. Mehalchin
Lura Middleton
Edward Moery
Wade, DJ, Katie & Andrew Nash
Thomas J. Noel
Mr. & Mrs. F. Landedy Patton
Joanne Pearson
Jackie W. Powell
Emma Mendez Quinones
Martha D. Russell
Brian Seyferth
Julie Lynn Spiegleman
John K. Stahl
Homer Turner
Robert Tutag
John K. Wallace Jr.
Margaret M. Yeager

In memory of Maxine Elzi
Margorie M. J. Chapin
Mary Norris

In memory of Genieve Burns
Susan Bishop
Dee Ellen Davidson
Rickey T. Wilson

In memory of Charles Wilkins
Jean Carson
Warren L. Chase
Kay Larson
Harriet Lute
Reala Moncrief
William M. Moore
William Parella
Medrith D. Rauscher
C. W. Schoelzel
Nancy L. Striebing
Morley B. Thompson
Louise Price Weller

In memory of Dr. Samuel B. Childs
W. W. J. Croze Jr.
Fairfield & Woods
Robert M. O'Donnell
Harriett L. Rydstrom
Dorothy Sampson

In memory of Jean Bradford
Walter C. Emery
Ramsay J. Harris
Clara & Allan Phipps
Mr. & Mrs. E. Basil Reeve
James Rheem
Lois S. Robertson
C. W. Robinson Jr.
Mrs. Benjamin F. Stapleton
The Perennial Garden Club
Mr. & Mrs. William F. Wilbur

In memory of Victor Hornbein
Helen P. Grant
Jane Hultin
Conrad M. Riley

In memory of Fletcher Gaylord
Richard & Susan Kirk
The Perennial Garden Club

In memory of Pat Brace
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Knapp & Family

In memory of Mary Anne Sonnenberg
L.P. Macauley

In memory of Stanford Clamage
The Gang at St. Mark's Coffeehouse
The Gang at The Collegiate Book Basement

In memory of Martin Rust
Roger S. Rhodes

In memory of Helen G. Stewart
Donna L. Stewart

In memory of John Brooks
Helen P. Grant

In honor of Barbara Bournemeyer Lane's 40th birthday
Susan & Paul Sugarman

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Al O'Meara's wedding anniversary
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Silversmith Jr.

In honor of Genny & Bob Appel's 45th wedding anniversary
JoAnn & Art Boss

In honor of Dorothy & Irwin Freedberg's 50th wedding anniversary
Allen & Barbara Freedberg

Fantasy Orchids, Inc.

Fantasy Orchids a corporate friend

Fantasy Orchids, an important orchid supplier for DBG, is a new corporate member of the Gardens. Fantasy Orchids is expanding into a new 10,000-square foot greenhouse and will carry more than 100,000 orchid plants and offer free classes on orchid care. Its new location is 830 W. Cherry St. in Louisville, just a few blocks off the Boulder-Denver turnpike. Store hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

DBG members at the Botanist Club level and above can present their membership card and receive a 20 percent discount. For more information call 666-5432.

DBG is proud to count Fantasy Orchids of Louisville among its corporate members.

Three visionaries...

(continued from page 1)

public: an urban rock garden in Golden, mountain valley gardens of Vail, desert gardens in Phoenix and Santa Fe and jewels of Denver and the Front Range.

In "The Cottage Garden of Lauren Springer," the garden's owner will show how one woman's vision transformed a small suburban lot outside Fort Collins into one of the most stunning cottage gardens in the nation. Springer will show before-and-after pictures, explain her design considerations and talk about the water-wise plants she chose. While "regional landscapes help inspire good gardens ... the neighborhood and the house play just as important a role," she says.

David Salman, owner of Santa Fe Greenhouses in New Mexico, will teach how to enhance perennial beds with colorful, hardy plants suited for Western gardens in his talk, "Plants for the Southwest." After looking at the brilliant helianthemums, veronicas, thymes, penstemons and agastaches you will see that perennial gardens here often are showier than the pastel borders of the eastern U.S. The program will conclude with a panel discussion.

This symposium is in John C. Mitchell II Hall from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Cost is $46 for members, $57 for nonmembers and $36 for students with proof of full-time status. The fee includes all handouts and lunch (no lunch for those registering at the student rate). Space is limited. Call the DBG education department, 370-8020 or 370-8019.

A connoisseur's visit to Ireland's gardens and historic landmarks

May 12 to 21, 1996

A very special tour to Ireland is planned for Denver Botanic Gardens members!

Ireland is unsurpassed in this season of beautiful wildflowers and monumental rhododendrons. In addition to visiting some of Ireland's loveliest private gardens, you will be entertained in charming country houses and talk with the owners as they extend their hospitality. Along with the priceless treasures of private collections, the group will learn about ancient monuments and enjoy picturesque country lanes, horse farms and rugged seashores.

Irish music, literature and the laughter of the people will add that special charm to make this trip unforgettable.

Itinerary highlights

- ✖ Tour of Old Dublin including Trinity College and the Book of Kells
- ✖ Explore Mt. Congreve and Annes Grove Gardens, the most extensive and beautiful private gardens in Ireland
- ✖ Visit Russborough, a Palladian Mansion featuring an outstanding art collection including Goya, Vermeer, Rubens and Velasquez
- ✖ Lunch with the Knight of Glin, advisor to Christies auction house, at Glin Castle, the family seat since the 13th century
- ✖ Visit private stables and gardens in fox-hunting country near Limerick
- ✖ Meet designer and author Sybil Connolly for tea in her charming townhouse garden
- ✖ Enjoy garden writer Helen Dillon's urban oasis, noted for its roses and clematis
- ✖ Dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Guinness at Lodge Park, their country home near Dublin
- ✖ Join the friendly local people on a musical pub crawl in Dublin
- ✖ Sample Ireland's delicious cuisine, from buttery scones to oysters and salmon
- ✖ Opportunities for optional golf and fishing

Connemara extension May 21 to 24

From the rugged Atlantic coastline to majestic, craggy mountains skirted by lakes of cobalt blue, Connemara is considered by many to be Ireland's loveliest landscape. In between lies the Burren, a unique area of limestone outcroppings containing some of Europe's rarest wildflowers. Here, also, are vestiges of Ireland's early civilization with megalithic tombs and ring forts dating from 4,000 years ago. Then to Galway City, home of many of the country's most illustrious literary figures. A drive through Connemara's fabled mountains brings the extension to a magnificent conclusion.

Details

Space is limited. Cost is $2910 for land arrangements based on double hotel occupancy ($602 single room supplement), which includes:

- First class hotels on a share basis inclusive of tax and service charge
- An average of two meals daily, including continental breakfast and either lunch or dinner
- Fully escorted sightseeing as noted in the itinerary including entrance fees
- Ground transportation via deluxe, private motorcoach
- Baggage handling and porterage
- Voluntary tax-deductible donation of $200 to Denver Botanic Gardens

(Not included: meals not outlined in itinerary, room service, liquors, wines, mineral waters, beverages at meals, laundry, tips to guides and drivers, items of personal nature and passport fees.) Cost of extension to Connemara is $630.

Airfare will be ticketed at the lowest available rate (roundtrip Denver to Dublin and Shannon to Denver on TWA and AER LINGUS based on advance purchase excursion fare in effect as of Aug. 1 is $856.15).

A $700 per person deposit will secure space in the order received. Final payment is due on receipt of invoice March 1.

For registration and complete information, including highlights of the Connemara extension, call Tammy Gates, 370-8064.

From your membership office

Have a gobliny-good time

DBG's members-only "Goblins in the Gardens" is a fun, safe way to celebrate Halloween.

You can have a gobliny-good time trick-or-treating the Haunted Jungle Trail, creating creepy crafts, hearing ghastly ghost stories, playing ghoulish games and enjoying fang-tastic monster munchies!

Due to popular demand, "Goblins in the Gardens" will be held twice Sunday, Oct. 29: 1 to 3 p.m. and 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Members will receive invitations in the mail and should specify their desired time on the reservation form.

Admission is $5; children 3 and younger are free. For telephone reservations call 370-8187 beginning Oct. 2. Space is very limited, so make your reservations early!

Plenty of October activities for members

October's bright blue skies and crisp weather are perfect conditions to get outdoors and use your DBG membership card! You can come to Chatfield Arboretum for the Pumpkin Festival Oct. 14 (free to members), or drop by the Gardens and visit the orchid show Oct. 14 and 15, and the African violet show Oct. 21.

Goblins in the Gardens Oct. 29 is a great family event. At $5 a ticket, you can't go wrong – and this event is strictly for members and their guests.

Create wearable web at Pumpkin Festival

You may consider them itsy-bitsy or creepy-crawly, but spiders play an important role in nature. Children are invited to learn more about artistic arachnids during "Kidding Around: Wearable Webs" at the Chatfield Arboretum Pumpkin Festival Oct. 14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.. You can create a spider hat or spiderweb necklace, and test your knowledge of these eight-legged creatures. For more information call 370-8020.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
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October

October

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November

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Coming Up: Classes are in italics. An * indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For **course information** refer to DBG's fall *Education Programs* or 303-370-8020. For **current DBG events information**: 303-370-8187. For current plant and arts **society meeting information**: 303-370-8097.

October

1 *Chatfield Arboretum tour*

2 ** Botany for Gardeners*

3 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

4 *Night Hike and Picnic*

5 ** Beginning Bonsai*
** Herbal Soap*
** Natural Style Flower Arranging*

7 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
American Iris Society meeting
Mushroom Workshop
Wheat & Roses: A Fall Wreath
Tree Walk at Fairmount Cemetery

8 *Behind-the-Scenes Greenhouse Tour I*
Chatfield Arboretum tour
A Living Wreath

9 Colorado Mycological Society meeting
Glass Artists Fellowship meeting

10 Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting
Gloxinia, Gesneriad Growers Society meeting
** Landscape Design Theory*
** Bird Watching – Basics & Beyond*

11 ** Autumn Antics in your Garden*
Fall Harvest Wreath

12 Denver Rose Society meeting

14 Pumpkin Festival at Chatfield Arboretum
Kidding Around: Wearable Webs at Chatfield Arboretum
** A Mouthful of Plant Parts*
Holiday Ornaments from Straw & Wheat I
Rocky Mountain Orchid Judging Center meeting

14, 15 Denver Orchid Society show

15 *Chatfield Arboretum tour*
Cooking with Judith Fine-Sarchielli: Gourmet Herbed Oils & Vinegars

17 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting
** Drawing Plants in Color I, II, III*

18 North American Rock Garden Society, Rocky Mountain Chapter meeting
From Cuts to Creations II

21 Rocky Mountain African Violet Council fall sale
Putting Your Garden to Rest
The Winter Garden
Pioneer Graves at Fairmount Cemetery

22 *Chatfield Arboretum tour*
A Traditional Corn Broom

23 Ultra Violet Club meeting

24 *Terrariums of Terror*

25 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture: John Dixon Hunt, "Who Invented the Italian Garden?"
Colorado Native Plant Society meeting

26 African Violet Society meeting
Ikebana International meeting
Gardeners of America meeting

28 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

29 Goblins in the Gardens – for members only!
Final Chatfield Arboretum tour of the season

John Fielder Rocky Mtn. Nat'l Park photos at DBG

Wednesday, Oct. 11, photographer John Fielder will guide you through the nation's most magnificent mountain park in a presentation in John C. Mitchell II Hall, "Rocky Mountain National Park: A 100-Year Perspective." His talk is based on his book by the same title released in September.

Fielder hiked and photographed the 265,000-acre park during the summers of 1993 and 1994. He will accompany his stunning photographs with black and white photographs taken at the turn of the century by the park's founder, Enos Mills, and he will read selections of writing by Mills and by T. A. Barron, an acclaimed nature observer who traveled the park with Fielder.

Rocky Mountain National Park is considered by many the spiritual heart of the southern Rocky Mountains, an alpine terrain as lush as it is austere, as friendly as it is intimidating. The grandeur of its mountain peaks, the profusion of flowering plant life and the ubiquity of creeks, cascades and waterfalls create a unique setting.

Fielder devotes much of his time to conservation issues. He was instrumental in rallying support for passage of the 1993 Colorado Wilderness Bill. He is the 1993 recipient of the Sierra Club's Ansel Adams Award for Conservation Photography honoring individuals who make superlative use of still photography to promote conservation causes.

If you are interested in helping to protect Rocky Mountain National Park, you can do so by purchasing Fielder's book (proceeds go to the park) or by contributing to the Rocky Mountain National Park Associates, Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, CO 80517 (970-586-1294). The DBG Gift Shop will be open the evening of the lecture and will have Fielder's books available. He will sign his books after the lecture. Helen Fowler Library also will be open from 5 to 7 p.m.

Fielder's slide presentation is at 7 p.m. Cost is $5 for members, $6 for nonmembers. To register or for more information call 370-8020 or 370-8019.

Green Thumb News

Denver Botanic Gardens November 1995

DBG sparkles with winter 'Blossoms' & fun

As the the colors of fall fade away, Denver Botanic Gardens prepares to light up with its special colors of winter – the thousands of sparkling lights and brightly colored poinsettias of "Blossoms of Light."

DBG's holiday celebration opens to the public at 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, with a special lighting ceremony, free refreshments, a visit from Santa and musical entertainment.

Outdoors, a brilliant tunnel of lights will lead to a winter wonderland of bright sequenced light vignettes: colorful flowers that seem to bloom and dance before your eyes, frogs that leap among lily pads and fish that swim up a shimmering stream. Holiday music will accompany you, your family and friends as you stroll the colorfully lit grounds.

Indoors, thousands of poinsettias will decorate the lobby court and conservatory. Dolls from the collection of the Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys will again be exhibited in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Students of local elementary schools will decorate trees to represent different cultures for this year's theme, "Holidays Around the World."

Family festivities continue through Jan. 1 from 6 to 9 p.m. nightly. Choruses, dancers, bell ringers or other entertainment will fill the evenings with holiday sounds. Seasonal refreshments – hot chocolate, hot cider, roasted chestnuts and *churros* (a sweet Mexican pastry) – will be available for purchase, and children and their parents can enjoy making a special craft project at "Nature's Workshop" each evening.

DBG's popular "Teddy Bear Teas" for children will be on two Saturdays. Lisa Reinecke, storyteller, will entertain at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Dec. 9. Joel Silverman will perform magic acts at 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Dec. 16.

(Continued on page 3: "DBG sparkles...")

Holiday Sale:

New hand-crafted items join famous DBG ornaments, vinegars

Expect to find many things different at this year's Holiday Sale Nov. 17 and 18. While still offering the traditional items for which it has become famous, the sale has been revamped to bring you entirely new lines of gifts and decorations and to win your loyalty with efficient, sensitive service.

You'll notice the changes before you reach the York Street gate. Shoppers who line up early will be greeted with a bit of "weatherproofing": hot beverages to purchase and a place to sit, out of the wind. Indoors your final check-out will be handled by fast, "smart" cash registers, and special packaging tables will be set up to move traffic congestion from the check-out stands. While you're browsing you can enjoy hot coffees, chocolate and home-baked breads, loaves of which also will be available to take home.

Reflecting the theme for this year's Holiday Sale — gardening — is a unique collection of Christmas tree ornaments in the form of garden tools, watering cans and other horticultural representations perfect for the trees of DBG members.

(Continued on page 6: "Holiday sale...")

Inside this GTN:

DBG's Water-Smart Garden was dedicated Sept. 31.
– page 2

•

Three visionary Western garden stylists will speak at the Gardens
– page 3

•

Elms and other trees are recommended.
– pages 4 & 5

•

New upper-level members will receive $5 gift certificate.
– page 7

The Lark a corporate friend of the Gardens

The Lark, a retailer of fine gifts for the home and garden, is a corporate friend of Denver Botanic Gardens.

DBG thanks owners Debby Locke, Kay Malo and Marcia Thomas for recently providing *Life's Little Treasure* books as favors for patrons of DBG's *Fete des Fleurs*, helping make the evening one to remember.

The Gardens is happy to count The Lark, located at Fourth Avenue and Downing Street, as a corporate member.

From the executive director

A wonderful new garden was dedicated at 1005 York St. Sept. 13. The Water-Smart Garden, just south of Boettcher Memorial Conservatory, is an important and extraordinary achievement.

The Water-Smart Garden exemplifies what is best and distinguishing about Denver Botanic Gardens – our commitment to new and exciting horticulture, our dedication to show and develop a special brand of horticulture – what we call Rocky Mountain Horticulture. The Water-Smart Garden demonstrates that gardens can be beautiful to look at and educational. It incorporates a strong conservation ethic in our gardening and a belief in expanding the experimental nature of our plantings.

Lauren Springer, author, *Denver Post* columnist and garden designer extraordinaire, designed this garden. Its construction was made possible by the support of Denver Water and Metro Water Conservation Inc.

Its purpose is to show how a garden designed for water conservation can be quite beautiful in every season. For too long people have assumed that water-conserving gardens were comprised of only grey-green plants and rock and were quite boring. Lauren has shown that by selecting plants carefully these gardens can be highly ornamental and ones that everyone would love to have.

DBG's Water-Smart Garden is designed so you can emulate the principals, use the same plants in many cases, and make your garden a beautiful environmental garden at the same time. For experimental purposes, about one quarter of the plants in this garden will be new or little known plants. Others will be ones many of you are already familiar with. The garden will change through the years, so you will want to pay careful attention to it.

As we all strive to live in harmony with our environment and learn what to grow and how to grow it here – Rocky Mountain Horticulture – we hope to bring you an ever interesting and innovative landscape at Denver Botanic Gardens.

– Richard H. Daley
Executive Director

DBG's new Water-Smart Garden occupies a prominent site south of Boettcher Memorial Conservatory.

DBG, Park People plan for tomorrow's trees

Denver Botanic Gardens and The Park People will sponsor a seminar on "Trees for Today and Tomorrow" Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Gardens.

Through one-on-one conversations, lectures and panel discussions, both novices and professionals will be immersed in ways to start, step-up or refine tree-planting programs in their communities, learn about new disease- and drought-resistant trees and discover the special needs of different trees in different zones. A tour of DBG's grounds will round out the day.

Cost is $20 per person, or $15 each if two or more persons attend representing the same organization. Continental breakfast and lunch is included. For more information or a registration form call 722-6262.

Green Thumb News
November 1995
Published monthly by the Marketing and Special Events Department of Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206
Editor: Larry Latta, 370-8033
Deadline for January issue: Nov. 17
Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum are established and maintained by Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc., for the people of the City and County of Denver and for the general public in cooperation with the Denver Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Botanic Gardens is also grateful for funds from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which enable the Gardens to expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Tempel lecture views Southwestern wildflowers

Loraine Yeatts, noted wildflower photographer and speaker, presents "Wildflowers of the Desert Southwest" as the 1995 Carl W. Tempel Wildflower Lecture Wednesday, Nov. 8.

Yeatts, a regional botanist known for her photographic programs, has spent more than 30 years studying wildflowers. Her lecture will take you on a journey of discovery in the Chihuahan, Sonoran and Mojave deserts, then to the high northern deserts of the Great Basin and Colorado Plateau and, finally, to the desert-like harshness of the alpine tundra. The marvelous diversity of textures and forms of desert plants will provide inspiration for your garden designs.

The program is in John C. Mitchell II Hall, 1005 York St., from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Cost is $5 for members, $6 for nonmembers. Helen Fowler Library will stay open the evening of the lecture from 6 to 7 p.m. The Carl W. Tempel Wildflower Lecture was inaugurated in 1979 to honor Major General Carl W. Tempel. For more information or to register, call 370-8019 or 370-8020.

Photo by Lorrain Yeatts

DBG sparkles...

(Continued from page 1)

These dress-up parties based on modified British high teas offer hearty kids' food, flavored teas, desserts and entertainment that appeals to children from 3 to 10 years old. Children are encouraged to bring their favorite teddy bear or doll and a party-loving adult. Reservations are required for the Teddy Bear Teas.

DBG also will present three holiday concerts during the month: local favorites Wind Machine Dec. 13 and 14, and Lannie Garrett Dec. 19.

New entertainment this winter are plays by Compass Theatre tailor-made for DBG audiences. On Dec. 21 the troupe will present "Swan of Avon," a celebration of the times of Shakespeare, drawing extensively on letters, diaries, poems and songs from the court of Elizabeth I. Then Dec. 28 they will romp through "Come Into the Garden, Maude," an evening of music, verse and prose from ancient to modern times demonstrating our enduring love affair with things botanical – the joy of gardening, the delights of nature and the fascination of horticulture.

Ticket information and an order form for teas, concerts and theater performances are published in the flier in this month's *Green Thumb News*. Tickets go on sale Nov. 13. The DBG box office in the York Street gate house will be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Make your reservations early because seating will be limited.

"Blossoms of Light" activities *other than* the Teddy Bear Teas, concerts and theater performances for DBG members are $3 for adults and $1 for children 6 through 15. For non-members prices are $4 for adults and $2 for children 6 through 15.Children 5 and younger are free. For more information call 370-8187.

Western gardening visionaries to lecture

In a series of lectures Saturday, Nov. 11, three regional garden visionaries will discuss the characteristics that make the gardens and plants of this region unique.

Inspired by the open vistas, rugged landscapes and arid climates of the West, Rocky Mountain gardeners are developing their own sense of place and style. You will come away from this program with ideas for your own landscaping with regional plants.

Charles Mann, noted for his truly stunning photographs of plants and gardens, takes you on a tour of premier gardens of the Southwest in his presentation, "The Essence of Place." You'll visit private gardens that are rarely open to the public.

In "The Cottage Garden of Lauren Springer," you'll see how one woman's vision transformed a small suburban lot just outside of Fort Collins into one of the most beautiful cottage gardens in the nation. You'll see before-and-after pictures, design considerations and water-wise plants.

David Salman, owner of Santa Fe Greenhouses in New Mexico, will introduce an incredible variety of hardy perennials that are excellent additions to Western gardens, in his presentation "Plants for the Southwest."

The program will conclude with a panel discussion to answer your gardening questions.

The day-long symposium in John C. Mitchell II Hall begins at 9:30 a.m. Cost is $46 for members, $57 for nonmembers, and $36 for students with proof of full-time status. The fee includes all handouts and lunch (no lunch for those registering at the student rate). To register call 370-8020 or 370-8019.

Dutch elm disease requires vigilance, action

American elm varieties resistant to DED

Ulmus 'American Liberty'
U. 'Delaware'
U. 'Independence'
U. 'Iowa State'
U. 'L'Assomption'
U. 'Princeton'

Elm hybrids* resistant to DED

Ulmus X hybrida 'Accolade'
U. 'Frontier'
U. 'Homestead'
U. 'Patriot'
U. 'Regal'
U. 'Sapporo Autumn Gold'
U. 'Urban'
U. 'Washington'
** typically, smaller-leaved than American elm varieties*

How many times this past summer did you pass by yet another doomed American elm tree, with that telltale circle of bark removed from its trunk, branding it as another casualty of Dutch elm disease? Although it has been more than 30 years since Dutch elm disease (DED) became a serious problem in the Denver area, it still hurts to see the stately trees go.

In spite of widespread awareness of the disease, many people still don't understand its physiology. The disease is a fungus which multiplies in the water-conducting tissues of infected trees, clogging them, causing the tree to wilt and die. The fungus was introduced from Europe in the earlier part of this century. Most elm species and hybrids grown in this area are susceptible to the disease, with the exception of the Siberian elm.

The fungus would probably have a hard time getting around and infecting many trees if it were not for the help of the smaller European elm bark beetle. It's a long, shiny dark brown creature only 1/16-inch to 1/8-inch long. (It should not be confused with the elm leaf beetle that frequently skeletonizes the foliage of the Siberian elm trees in our area.)

The elm bark beetles lay their eggs in the bark of dead and dying elms. If their host tree is infected with DED, hatching beetles can carry spores of the fungus to a healthy tree, infecting it when they penetrate its bark to lay eggs. Trees newly infected with DED show wilting and curling leaves on one or more branches. Later the leaves shrivel, fade and turn brown, often clinging to the branches.

Trees infected with the fungus cannot be cured. However, there are occasional reversals of apparently infected trees when symptomatic limbs are promptly removed and fungicidal injections immediately applied. Such successes are rare.

Controlling the spread of DED, then, centers on controlling the elm bark beetle and its breeding sites. Since the beetles prefer to colonize in dead, weak or dying wood, it is important to keep all elm trees healthy by pruning out dead and broken limbs, preferably in winter when the trees are dormant. *This especially includes Siberian elms.* Although not susceptible to the fungus, this species is very prone to storm breakage, and thus provides more than its share of deadwood breeding sites for the beetles.

Trees infected with DED must be cut down and removed as soon as possible and the wood taken to a landfill. Elm wood from any species must not be saved for firewood as the beetles will still breed in the logs.

The reason trunks of infected trees have been girdled, and a ring of bark removed, is to prevent the fungus from reaching the root system and infecting another elm nearby through a root graft.

Through hard work and good sanitation, the Denver metropolitan area has managed to retain thousands of American elms in spite of the presence of DED. Most other cities where DED is present are today virtually elmless.

– Ken Slump,
DBG Plant Recorder

Protect perennials with winter mulching

The practice of applying winter mulches to perennial beds, winter annuals and some shrubs is especially important in Colorado. Our winter weather – freezing night temperatures alternating with strong, harsh sunlight – can be particularly stressful to garden plants. The soil surface "heaves" with the constant freezing and thawing, and this can be detrimental to plants with shallow roots.

Timing of mulch application is very important, depending on your purpose. If the purpose is to protect your newly planted pansies, apply the mulch before the ground freezes. This will extend the length of time before the soil freezes and allow the plants more time for root growth.

If the purpose of the mulch is to protect your plants' roots from frost heave, apply it after the ground has frozen. The mulch will prevent the temperature fluctuations that cause the soil to expand and contract.

Mulches also are useful for preventing, or at least slowing down, the early emergence of spring bulb plants during brief late winter warm-ups that we invariably experience in Colorado. Apply mulch to these, also, after the ground has frozen.

The choices of mulching materials are numerous. A good material will not compact readily but will allow water to penetrate and some air to circulate. Denver Botanic Gardens uses pine needles or dried, uncomposted leaves on roses and less hardy shrubs. After Christmas, the horticulture department cuts branches from discarded Christmas trees and lays the boughs loosely over the plants in the perennial and bulb borders.

Straw, compost and dried grass clippings, as long as they do not become matted, also can be used. Some mulches are less aesthetically pleasing than others, and some will blow off plants in a wind storm. However, any of these mulches are worth a try because their benefits far outweigh their disadvantages.

With proper mulching, your plants will have an easier time making it unscathed through our unpredictable winters.

– Kathy Kircher
DBG Horticulture Supervisor

Denver Botanic Gardens

Blossoms of Light 1995

Colorful, twinkling lights; magical displays; musical entertainment; and holiday refreshments–the holiday season is aglow at Denver Botanic Gardens.

Holiday Performances

Fill your holiday season with music and fun!

Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 13 & 14 • Concert: *Wind Machine*
Tuesday, Dec. 19 • Concert: *Lannie Garrett and Her Big Band*
Thursday, Dec. 21 • Compass Theatre: *Swan of Avon*
Wednesday, Dec. 27 • Compass Theatre: *Come into the Garden, Maude*

Teddy Bear Teas

Children, bring your favorite doll or teddy bear for high tea!

Saturday, Dec. 9 • Storytelling: Lisa Reinecke
Saturday, Dec. 16 • Magic: Joel Silverman

Registration Form

- Tickets are available after Nov. 13. No refunds or exchanges
- DBG ticket window, 1005 York St., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Phone 370-8187
- Mail check payable to Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206
- Please include self-addressed, stamped envelope
- For Teddy Bear Teas, indicate 1st and 2nd choices of time and date by using #s 1 and 2 in the boxes

	# of Tickets	Member Price	Nonmember Price	=	Total
Holiday Concert • Wednesday, Dec. 13 • 7 p.m.• *Wind Machine*		$10	$12	=	
Holiday Concert • Thursday, Dec. 14 • 7 p.m.• *Wind Machine*		$10	$12	=	
Holiday Concert • Tuesday, Dec. 19 • 7 p.m.• *Lannie Garrett and Her Big Band*		$10	$12	=	
Holiday Performance • Thursday, Dec. 21 • 7 p.m.• *Swan of Avon*		$9	$11	=	
Holiday Performance • Wednesday, Dec. 27 • 7 p.m.• *Come into the Garden...*		$9	$11	=	
Teddy Bear Teas • Saturday, Dec. 9 • *Lisa Reinecke* ❑ 11 a.m. ❑ 1 p.m. • Adults $15 • Children $8	(Adults/Children) /	$15 / $8	$15 / $8	=	
Teddy Bear Teas • Saturday, Dec. 16 • *Joel Silverman* ❑ 11 a.m. ❑ 1 p.m. ❑ 3 p.m. • Adults $15 • Children $8	(Adults/Children) /	$15 / $8	$15 / $8	=	
			# Grand Total		

Name_____ Daytime Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State_____ Zip Code _____

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Denver Botanic Gardens

BLOSSOMS OF LIGHT

December 9 - January 1

6 to 9 p.m.

Lighting Ceremony • Saturday, Dec. 9 • 5:15 p.m.

Holiday Performances

Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 13 & 14 • Concert: *Wind Machine*
Tuesday, Dec. 19 • Concert: *Lannie Garrett and Her Big Band*
Thursday, Dec. 21 • Compass Theatre: *Swan of Avon*
Wednesday, Dec. 27 • Compass Theatre: *Come into the Garden, Maude*

Teddy Bear Teas

Saturday, Dec. 9 • Storytelling: Lisa Reinecke
Saturday, Dec. 16 • Magic: Joel Silverman

Denver Botanic Gardens
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Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street • Denver, CO 80206-3799

Place
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Here

After the storm:

Damage at the Gardens

The last days of summer brought one of the most damaging early snows to the metropolitan area in recent decades. Trees that had leafed slowly during our belated, cool, damp spring produced abundant foliage to which the heavy, wet snow adhered, ripping large limbs and maiming, often destroying trees of all species and ages.

Although Denver Botanic Gardens lost a few favorites Sept. 20, its mostly young trees seem to have been less severely damaged than elsewhere around town. The choice of appropriate species and cultivars for our climate, and DBG's program of regular maintenance helped preserve our collection.

The most severely damaged trees at our location at 10th Avenue and York Street included ash trees, maples (especially silver maples), Russian olives, cottonwoods and one golden rain tree. At DBG's Chatfield Arboretum, along Deer Creek southwest of Littleton, numerous limbs were broken from cottonwoods and box elders (a species of maple), creating great new wildlife habitats. Trees sustaining little damage included oaks, hackberries, flowering crabapples, hawthorns, lindens, Turkish filberts and the conifers (spruces, firs, pines and junipers).

What to do now?

If you still have "hangers" and broken limbs in your trees, they should be removed. Much of the storm's damage will be better assessed after the leaves have fallen from the trees. Then prune broken limbs back to the nearest healthy limb or branch. Take care to avoid "flush cuts": Trim to the natural collar (a slightly swollen ring of tissue) that usually surrounds each branch or limb at its point of attachment to another. Do not leave long branch stubs!

Bark that is torn should be cut off and trimmed as neatly as possible. Try not to leave large hunks of torn wood sticking out of the trunks or large limbs. These will take many extra years for the tree's natural defense system to cover and encapsulate them.

Obviously, pruning large trees and limbs out of easy reach should be entrusted to licensed, professional arborists.

Neither tree wound dressings nor paint are recommended as they can aid insect infestations and disease by providing a protected refuge.

It is often difficult to evaluate when a tree is sufficiently damaged to warrant its removal. Many trees around town lost their lead branches (the central, tallest branches) and may never grow into safe trees of normal, attractive form. Still, the recuperative powers of nature are remarkable, so a wait-and-see approach may be advisable.

DBG hort staff picks favorite shade trees

Growing trees in the Rocky Mountain region has always been a challenge. The natural Colorado High Plains are, for the most part, rich in grasses and forbes but nearly devoid of trees.

Yet shade trees are extremely important components of comfortable, healthy urban environments. They cool our homes, cars and families and provide habitats for birds and other wildlife.

The DBG horticulture staff encourages the planting of the following shade trees:

Acer grandidentatum 'Rocky Mountain Glow': Commonly called Rocky Mountain sugar maple or big tooth maple, this native has glowing yellow and orange fall color. It attains a height of 40 feet.

Acer platanoides 'Schwedleri': This 60- to 70-foot tall shade tree has leaves that are soft red in the spring, bronzed green for the summer and, finally, a beautiful rich red in autumn.

Celtis occidentalis: Wonderful plants for water-smart landscapes, hackberries can grow to 100 feet and will thrive in low-water landscapes. Their horizontal branches, rough gray bark and yellow fall color make them interesting the year around.

Tilia cordata: The pyramidal growth habit of little-leaf lindens makes them a stand-out in any Rocky Mountain landscape. Mature specimens can reach more than 80 feet tall. Sometimes called lime trees, their flowers appear in late June and perfume the garden with citrus fragrance.

Fraxinus americana 'Autumn Purple': Topping out at taller than 100 feet, autumn purple ash trees give our mostly gold fall landscape a long-lasting splash of brilliant red, purple and orange.

Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Summit': This selection of green ash is a great old standby. It will grow to be 60 feet tall, requires minimal training and has bold yellow autumn color.

Quercus robur: Cultivars of English oak contribute significantly to the somewhat limited list of reliable shade trees for the Rocky Mountain gardener. Most grow at least 60 feet tall and seem to tolerate a wide variety of growing conditions. Depending on the variety, their forms can vary from broad spreading to fastigiate to pendulous.

Quercus macrocarpa: Bur oaks are USDA Zone four trees native to North America from Nova Scotia to Texas. Their ability to adapt to diverse growing conditions is demonstrated by their geographic distribution. The juvenile form is narrowly pyramidal, but they have potential to become a broad spreading specimen at maturity.

Quercus shumardii: Shumard's Red Oak is one of the most reliable trees for red fall color. Its form is broad-spreading, and it is one of the last trees to turn color each fall. The combination of its smooth gray bark (juvenile form) and vibrant maroon foliage is truly memorable.

– Joann Narverud
DBG Grounds Supervisor

Chaney chosen September employee of the month

Membership and development associate Bronwyn Chaney was chosen by her fellow employees as DBG's September employee of the month.

Bronwyn quietly performs an important function in the administration of DBG – she single-handedly manages DBG's more-than-13,000 membership database and oversees countless mailings, production of membership cards and donor records. Bronwyn handles her numerous tasks efficiently while always providing first-rate customer service.

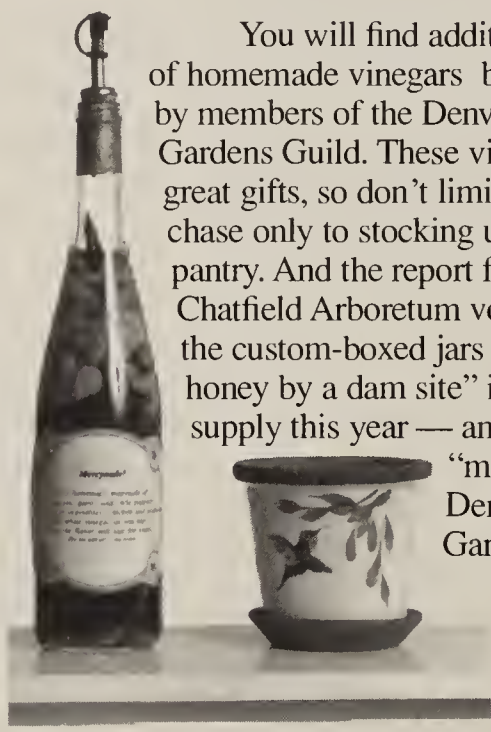
Keep up the good work, Bronwyn!

November 17 & 18
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Holiday Sale

As in the past, a dedicated crew of creative gift shop volunteers has been busy all year hand-crafting decorative items for your holiday home. Cute miniature birdhouses join the elves' already large inventory of wreaths, wall hangings, centerpieces and tree ornaments.

Other handmade items for sale came from the creativity of DBG staff members and individual volunteers: quilts, spicy marinades, plant containers, children's whistles, dried flower arrangements and ornaments. Of course the usual colorful array of dried flowers will be available for arrangers who wish to make their own Thanksgiving Day and winter decorations.



You will find additional flavors of homemade vinegars brewed up by members of the Denver Botanic Gardens Guild. These vinegars make great gifts, so don't limit your purchase only to stocking up your own pantry. And the report from the Chatfield Arboretum volunteers is, the custom-boxed jars of "best honey by a dam site" is in ample supply this year — another great "made by Denver Botanic Gardens" gift.

Do you have a gardener on your holiday giving list? Perhaps a kitchen wizard? Do you envision an old-fashioned Thanksgiving? At DBG's Holiday Sale you'll find surprising items that actually live up to the term "unique." It's one of the Gardens' major fund-raising events. Your patronage will be appreciated.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both Friday and Saturday. For information, please call 370-8079.

Also, your DBG Gift Shop is stocked with high-quality gifts, books and home decorations for gardeners and nature lovers. It will, of course, be open during the Holiday Sale.

From your membership office

'Herald the Season' brings two nights of holiday cheer

Members will have the opportunity to preview the 1995 "Blossoms of Light" display at their own special party, DBG's traditional "Herald the Season" Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 6 and 7, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The members-only evenings include desserts and hot cider, storytelling, caroling, a visit from Santa, music, balloon sculpting and face painting. Families can participate in two "Nature's Workshops," making beeswax candles and pine cone birdfeeders. Consult your invitation for information, or call 370-8187 after Nov. 13 to make your telephone reservation. Cost is $5 per person. Children under 2 years old get in free.

Volunteer opportunities are plentiful for this event! Please call 370-8049.

Earn a bonus when you buy a membership

From now until the end of the year, DBG offers a $5 DBG Gift Shop certificate to each new member who joins at the $50 level and a $10 certificate to each new member at the $120 level or above. ("New member" includes anyone whose membership expired before June 1995.) Also, every recipient of a *gift membership* during November, December and January will be sent a magnetic picture frame with their gift announcement. Now is the time to give a membership!

Suggestions for year-end giving

Many people include charitable giving in their year-end holiday gift giving. Year-end offers a special opportunity to review the year's finances and make tax-wise charitable gift decisions.

We encourage you to be charitably minded this holiday season and offer the following year-end giving tips:

• Charitable gifts made by December 31 are deductible in 1995.

• Making a cash gift is the simplest way to support a charitable organization.

• Giving appreciated property rather than cash can bring you greater tax savings because you will not pay taxes on your profit and your deduction will be the property's full market value. To give securities, contact your investment advisor as early as possible. We can provide more information too.

• The most you can deduct for 1995 cash gifts will be 50% of your adjusted gross income (AGI). Gifts of securities or real estate can be deducted up to 30% of your AGI. Excess deductions can be carried over and deducted in future years.

• You can increase your gift if your employer offers a matching gift program. In most cases, all you need do is complete the form your company uses to initiate the corporate donation.

• To ensure full tax benefits, keep all acknowledgements of gifts and gift amounts with your other tax records.

• Ask your advisor about the methods of giving that are most advantageous for you.

• We hope that you will consider Denver Botanic Gardens for your 1995 year-end giving. A gift lets you share in the Garden's continuing excellence in education, horticulture, visitor services, and other programs that members and the public enjoy.

Free days at Denver's cultural institutions in November

Denver's major cultural institutions will offer free admission to Colorado residents in November, thanks, in part, to funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District:

•DBG's Chatfield Arboretum, Saturday, Nov. 4

•Denver Zoo, Friday, Nov. 17

•Denver Art Museum, every Saturday.

A complete schedule of Denver's Tier 1 cultural institution free days through 1995 is available at the information desk in DBG's lobby.

Give a DBG Membership!

General Benefits for All Members

• Free admission to York Street and Chatfield facilities
• *Green Thumb News* and *Mountain, Plain & Garden* magazine
• Discounts on classes and field trips
• 10% discount at Gift Shop and at the Plant & Book Sale
• Early admission to the Plant & Book Sale
• Free plant upon joining and yearly plant dividend
• Borrowing privileges at Helen Fowler Library

❑ The Gardener – $25 – One card admits member; One guest pass.

❑ The Landscaper – $35 – One card admits member and guest; Two guest passes.

❑ The Arbor Circle – $50 – Two cards, each card admits three; Greenhouse tours; Four guest passes.

❑ The Botanist Club – $120 – Two cards, each card admits three; Merchant discounts; Greenhouse tours; A breakfast in the Gardens; 10 guest passes.

Senior Member Dividend—Members 65 or older at any level of membership may ask for another guest pass each time they use their card to enter the Gardens!

With each gift we will send two special magnetic picture frames as an introductory bonus.

Please send a gift membership to:

Name(s)_____

_____

Address_____

City _____State ____ Zip_____

Home Phone_____Work Phone_____

Donor's Name_____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip_____

Phone _____

Sign gift card _____

Gift card ❑ taken, or mail ❑ to recipient ❑ to me, by (date) _____

Enclosed is my check for $ _____ to Denver Botanic Gardens.

Charge membership to ❑ VISA ❑ MC

_____ Exp.____

Signature _____

Recipients receive a card informing them of your gift plus a free plant that may be picked up at the Gardens.

Please return this form with payment to:
Denver Botanic Gardens Membership Office
Dept. 251
Denver, CO 80291-0251
Questions or to order by phone call 370-8029.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206-3799
Address correction requested
TIME VALUE • Nov. 1, 1995

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Permit No. 205

November

November

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31						

Coming Up: Classes are in italics. An * indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For **course information** refer to DBG's fall *Education Programs* or 303-370-8020. For **current DBG events information**: 303-370-8187. For current plant and arts **society meeting information**: 303-370-8097.

November

1 *What to Eat When Safeway is Closed: Native Edibles*

4 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
**Orchids for Beginners*
Gloxinia, Gesneriad Growers meeting

7 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

8 Tempel Wildflower Lecture: Loraine Yeatts

9 *Apples, Bay Leaves and Orange Rings*

11 *The Art of Tracking*
Gardens of the West: Toward a New Gardening Style
Rocky Mountain Orchid Judges meeting

12 *Behind-the-Scenes Greenhouse Tours*
Mediterranean Holiday Food Gifts

13 **Landscape Design: Site Inventory and Analysis*
**Holiday Ornaments from Straw & Wheat*
Glass Artist Fellowship meeting

14 **Gardener's Ecology*
Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society meeting

15 *Holiday Herbs*

16 African Violet Society meeting
Ikebana International meeting

17,18 DBG Holiday Sale

18 *Cutting-Edge Floral Art*
Rocky Mountain African Violet Council meeting

19 Mile High Daylily Society meeting

20 Colorado Chapter of North American Rock Garden Society meeting
Ultra Violet Club meeting

21 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

28 **Advanced Drawing and Composition*

December

2 *Holiday Evergreen Wreath*
Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
Colorado Water Garden Society meeting

3 *A Tuscan Holiday Feast*

5 Colorado Native Plant Society meeting
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

6 *A Holiday Birch Wreath*

6,7 Herald the Season – for members only

7 Gardeners of America meeting

9-1/1 "Blossoms of Light"

9 Teddy Bear Teas
Advanced Holiday Ornaments from Straw & Wheat

13 Holiday Concert: Wind Machine

14 Holiday Concert: Wind Machine
African Violet Society meeting

16 Teddy Bear Teas

19 Holiday Concert: Lannie Garrett

21 Compass Theater: "Swan of Avon"

28 Compass Theater: "Come Into the Garden, Maude"

Focus on the Gardens for '96 photo contest

Picture yourself winning a grand prize, a year of photo services or a Denver Botanic Gardens family membership, then start snapping your favorite scenes and perusing your DBG photo album, because the "Picture a Great Garden" photo contest and show is returning in 1996.

Adults and children 15 and younger will be competing for a first-place prize, still to be determined. Second prize in two divisions is a year of photo services to be determined. Third-place finishers will receive a DBG family membership.

The top photos will be displayed in DBG's John C. Mitchell II Hall March 22 to 24, 1996, and the entrants submitting those top photos will be invited to a special members-only sneak preview and reception Thursday, March 22. A people's choice award will be determined at the end of the show.

Entry photos must be taken at one of four DBG sites — 1005 York St. (including the Morrison Center), Chatfield Arboretum, Mount Goliath or Walter S. Reed Botanical Garden. Photos must be either 5"x7", 8"x10" or 11"x17" and do not need to be mounted. A $5 entry fee per photo ($3 in the youth division) will help defray the cost of the contest and show.

For complete information or an entry form, which includes directions to the four DBG sites, please call 370-8018 or drop by the DBG lobby at 1005 York St.

Green Thumb News

Denver Botanic Gardens **December 1995**

'Blossoms' festivities a month of music & fun

When making your holiday plans this month, you'll want to include several evenings of family fun at the Gardens during "Blossoms of Light."

Festivities begin Saturday, Dec. 9, with a special opening night ceremony. Gates open at 5 p.m. this night only, and outdoor decorations officially light up at 5:30 p.m., signifying the beginning of a month of festivities. Metro on the Mall chorus group and Gore Range Brass Quintet entertain visitors indoors and out, and free refreshments will be available immediately following the lighting ceremony. Forecasters predict a visit from Santa Claus may round out the evening.

The celebration continues nightly through Jan. 1, from 6 to 9. Each evening brings a different type of entertainment—from bell ringers and dance groups to acoustic music and choruses. A free make-it-and-take-it "Nature's Workshop" also is included in each night's activities. Children and adults can enjoy making straw ornaments, pine cone bird feeders, snowflakes or other festive creations.

(Continued on page 5: "'Blossoms' festivities...")

DBG will present five special performances—concerts and plays—in John C. Mitchell II Hall during the December holiday season. Wind Machine, right, and Lannie Garrett and Her Big Band will bring their distinctive brands of music making to the stage, and Compass Theatre Company will unveil two fun new Elizabethan revues. For series details, please see page 5.

BLOSSOMS OF LIGHT

Holiday Schedule of Events

December 6 & 7	**Herald the Season**
December 9–Jan. 1	**"Blossoms of Light"**
December 9	**Teddy Bear Teas:** Storytelling, Lisa Reinecke
December 13 & 14	**Concert:** *Wind Machine*
December 16	**Teddy Bear Teas:** Magic, Joel Silverman
December 17–24	**Hannukah**
December 19	**Concert:** *Lannie Garrett and Her Big Band*
December 21	**Compass Theatre:** *Swan of Avon*
December 25	**Christmas**
December 27	**Compass Theatre:** *Come Into the Garden, Maude*

Inside this GTN:

The DBG Sensory Garden has won the top hort therapy association award. *– page 2*

•

College students can apply for '96 DBG horticultural internships. *– page 3*

•

Cold frames are handy gardening tools. *– page 4*

•

Great prizes await photo contest winners. *– page 8*

Dreyer's Grand ICE CREAM

Dreyer's a DBG corporate friend

Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream has been a corporate sponsor of the Gardens for two years. Members and visitors have been treated to its products at several of DBG's special events, most recently "Goblins in the Gardens."

Founded in 1928 by William Dreyer and his partner Joseph Edy, Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream is a manufacturer and marketer of one of the best-selling ice cream brands in the country. The company's dedication to uncompromising quality, its capabilities in strategic brand-building, its innovation and its direct store distribution are essential elements of its success.

DBG is proud to count Dreyer's among its corporate friends.

From the executive director

After just two and a half years Denver Botanic Gardens is about to complete the most successful fund drive in its 45-year history. This fall, we are asking our members to help us reach—and, hopefully, exceed—our goal of $7 million.

The funds will expand our horticultural and educational offerings enormously. The projects for which we are raising funds include a magnificent new Fragrance Garden, a new Waterway Garden, renovation of the perennial garden, major changes inside the conservatory and an expansion of the DBG Gift Shop.

We have made two major changes in the campaign in deference to our neighbors: We will expand the parking facility, a boon to us as well as the neighbors, and we will not build the originally planned meeting building. Instead, we will begin expansion of the library, research and education facilities in the existing Boettcher Education Center.

Early next year we will seek formal approval of the City of Denver for these projects. With these changes in our plans, we anticipate a very positive response.

This is a rare opportunity for our members to help us achieve excellence in all areas of the Gardens' endeavors: horticulture, research, education and public service. I hope each of you will respond generously to our request for support, and continue to help further DBG's mission for the benefit of the entire community.

—Richard H. Daley
Executive Director

Library open Mondays

After several years of operating with reduced public hours, DBG's Helen Fowler Library once again has opened its doors to Monday visitors. Librarian Susan Eubank, appointed in November, has arranged for the library to be open seven days a week, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on holidays, when it will be closed. Call 370-8014 for information.

Green Thumb News
December 1995
Published monthly by the Marketing and Special Events Department of Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206
Editor: Larry Latta, 370-8033
Deadline for February issue: Dec. 15
Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum are established and maintained by Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc., for the people of the City and County of Denver and for the general public in cooperation with the Denver Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Botanic Gardens is also grateful for funds from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), which enable the Gardens to expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Morrison Center garden wins AHTA award

DBG's Sensory Garden was given the "Therapeutic Garden Design Honor Award" by the American Horticultural Therapy Association at a recent symposium in Cleveland on therapeutic landscapes. It is the organization's highest award for garden design and programming for people with disabilities.

The Sensory Garden is in the Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center, headquarters for DBG's pioneering horticultural therapy program. It and the rest of the center comprise a completely "barrier free" facility, made up of a teaching center with solar heated offices, classroom and greenhouse, and the garden. It is the only facility of its kind in the United States.

The greenhouse and garden are used to train therapists and other professional care givers to use horticulture in their programs. They are used, also, to teach horticultural tasks and techniques to people with special learning needs—both for therapy and to prepare them for vocations.

The sensory garden demonstrates construction and design—such as easy access by wheelchair users and sensory orientation features for people with visual impairment—adaptable to other horticultural institutions and to home settings. The plants in the Sensory Garden were chosen to help people with physical, emotional or mental impairments enjoy and connect with nature through the senses of touch, hearing, smell and taste, as well as sight.

The center was dedicated in 1983, a gift of the Pauline A. and George R. Morrison Trust. The garden was designed by Herb Schaal of EDAW, Inc., landscape architects and urban designers, the building by Ron Abo of Brooks, Bond & Associates / Abo, Gude & Associates, architects.

Mike Hill new DBG operations manager

Denver Botanic Gardens executive director Richard H. Daley has announced the appointment of Mike J. Hill to the position of manager of operations. Hill assumes responsibility for managing the operation and maintenance of DBG's physical facilities and for managing safety, security and custodial operations. He also will serve as project manager for upcoming renovation projects at the Gardens.

Hill's career in operations management includes positions in the Jefferson County Public Schools district, Samsonite Corporation and, most recently, Engineered Data Products, manufacturer and distributor of sheet metal computer parts and furniture.

Six summer internships open at DBG in '96

Six 10-week internships are waiting for applicants for the summer of 1996. The internships, which come with a $2,000 stipend, are for currently enrolled college students, including those in graduate programs.

Preference will be given to residents of Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Utah and Wyoming or students enrolled in colleges or universities of these states. The program welcomes both traditional and nontraditional students, including those who are thinking of making a career change into the field of horticulture.

The internships offer students the opportunity to work alongside the Gardens' professional staff, learning the daily operations of a public display garden. Practical work experience will be provided in planting, watering, pruning and weeding on the outside grounds; seeding, transplanting and propagation in the greenhouses; and assisting with the tropical and subtropical plant displays. Field trips, special projects and lectures round out the program, which emphasizes Front Range horticulture.

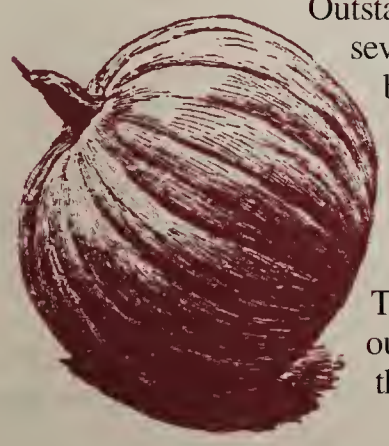
To qualify, applicants must have completed their sophomore year of college with a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 and must be currently enrolled as either an undergraduate or a graduate student. Several introductory courses in botany and horticulture are prerequisites.

Students will be chosen to fill two Alice Mann Owen Internships in Applied Horticulture, two Beatrice B. Taplin Internships in Applied Horticulture, a Clara Van Schaak Phipps Internship in Applied Horticulture and a Donald L. McIntosh Internship. The Denver Botanic Gardens Guild, the Associates of Denver Botanic Gardens and the Denver Chapter of Gardeners of America also support the program.

All completed application materials are due March 1, 1996. The internships will be from June 10 to Aug. 16. Inquiries and requests for applications should be sent to Paula Ogilvie, DBG adult education specialist, 909 York St., Denver, CO 80206.

Among their other experiences, 1995 interns Samantha Link, Jeanne Rudski, Gail Wagner, Peter Maloney and Amy Comfort (left to right) designed and carried out an excellent educational program as DBG's activity for the Denver Black Arts Festival in City Park in July. An additional internship will be available in 1996.

Seventh annual Pumpkin Festival a huge success



Outstanding fall weather prompted a plethora of pumpkin pickers to haunt the seventh annual Pumpkin Festival at Chatfield Arboretum in October. It was a banner year for attendance.

Special appreciation is extended to KOOL Radio for sponsoring the event, to the numerous volunteers for the many hours they contributed to planning and executing the event and to members of Front Range Antique Power Association for the hayrides.

To our members, thank you for your continued support of this wonderful outdoor fall event at Chatfield Arboretum. We plan to see you next year for the eighth annual.

Hort staff recommends books for holidays

There is nothing quite so relaxing as kicking back with a good book, a brownie and a cup of something warm on a long winter night. Although the DBG horticulture staff is usually just too busy attending to duties here at the Gardens and gardening at their own homes during the growing season, they still get in a bit of serious reading. Since gardening books are wonderful gifts to give and receive, staff members have provided some suggestions.

• *French Dirt* by Richard Goodman: You'll enjoy these adventures of an American gardener living in France for a year. Goodman weaves a humorous tale of his adventures with both the human community and growing things. —*Suzie Brown*

• *Wild Plants of the Pueblo Province* by William Dunmire and Gail Tierney: The authors present an interesting study of the pueblo region of New Mexico. They discuss plants, ethnobotany, a bit of geology and the history of the South Western United States. —*Vanessa Tatsch*

• *The Secret Life of Plants* by Peter Thompkins and Christopher Bird: This is a classic work that reveals much about the very complex world of plants and their relationships to people. Discover the emotional side of plants; learn how they communicate with each other; explore the mysterious extrasensory perception that connects them to us! —*Julie Loquidis*

• *Step by Step Organic Flower Gardening* by Shepherd Ogden: Co-owner of the Cook's Garden and author of *Step by Step Organic Vegetable Gardening*, in this book the writer is hooked on the pleasures of organic flower gardening. A quote from the author sums up his newest book: "It is my hope that through this book we will be able to help American gardeners take back their gardens from the chemical and machinery companies and regain some of the simple pleasure we used to take in plants and their habitat."—*Loddie Dolinski*

• *New Age Herbal* by Richard Mebey: Everything you ever wanted to know about herbs and more, this is a wonderful resource whether you are a novice or experienced herbalist. The author covers culture and practical guidelines for using herbs medicinally and as flavorings. Included are great color photos for plant identification. —*Joann Narverud*

• *Home Orchid Growing* by Rebecca Tyson Northen: A former resident of Laramie, Wyo., Northen delivers excellent information on growing orchids as houseplants in the Rocky Mountain region. —*Peggy Brown*

• *In Search of Flowers of the Amazon Forests* by Margaret Mee: This is a beautifully written and illustrated account of Mee's amazing experiences as she traveled through the Amazon rainforest. —*Gary Davis*

Horticulture magazine symposium on gardening in smaller spaces

Mark your 1996 calendar now for an exciting two-day symposium, "Intimate Gardens—The Art of Structuring and Planting Smaller Spaces." The event Feb. 5 and 6, is cosponsored by *Horticulture* magazine and Denver Botanic Gardens. Read future issues of *Green Thumb News* for more information.

Cold frame lets you garden all year

If you're the kind of gardener who hates to see winter bring an end to your gardening activities, consider using a cold frame for year-round growing.

Cold frames are little more than glass-, fiberglass- or plastic-covered boxes that trap the sun's heat, allowing a gardener to control the temperature inside by raising or lowering the cover to provide ventilation.

Cold frames can be used every season of the year. In spring, use them to get an early start on the growing season. You can sow cool-season crops such as lettuce, radishes and spinach directly in the soil. You'll surprise dinner guests with fresh greens long before anyone else is harvesting them from their gardens.

Cold frames also are perfect for "hardening-off" seedlings before moving them to their permanent space in your garden. By gradually lowering the temperature in the cold frame, you can strengthen or harden the plants' cell walls without shocking them so much they "stall." They'll then have a better chance of surviving in your garden.

During summer, frames can be used to grow plants moved up from smaller containers to larger ones—the frames can be used as a sort of nursery bed. Usually, the cover is not needed in summer.

Fall is a good time to stretch the season once again with a late crop of lettuce, spinach, kale or endive.

During winter, cold frames can be used to over-winter tender perennials or plants you didn't have time to put out into your garden. They also provide a convenient place to force spring bulbs for indoor bloom in the middle of winter.

So don't let a little cold weather put an end to your gardening. A small investment in this indispensable garden tool can keep you busy "out in the garden" all year.

—*Nick Snakenberg,*
DBG Plant Propagator

'Blossoms' festivities...

(Continued from page 1)

Although Santa does not have the time this year to visit the Gardens each night, families still can bring new and used toys to donate to the Santa Claus Shop for needy children and receive a coupon for a free hot chocolate or hot cider.

Outdoors two new spectacular outdoor lighting vignettes join the favorites from years' past. Indoors thousands of poinsettias and holiday lights decorate John C. Mitchell II Hall, the lobby court and the conservatory. Four local schools have made ornaments to adorn the trees in Mitchell Hall: Students from Jefferson Hills Center made European ornaments; Van Arsdale Elementary students crafted decorations for the African tree to celebrate Kwanzaa; British Primary School students created origami ornaments for the Asian tree; and decorations for the Central American tree were made by Willow Creek Elementary students.

The Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys will display dolls from around the world at the Gardens and will host a candlelight tour of its own facility Saturday, Dec. 9, from 6 to 9 p.m. A free double-decker bus will be available for "Blossoms" visitors who wish to travel between DBG and the museum. Bus riders showing their DBG gate receipt or DBG membership card will receive $1 off admission to the museum. For information about the candlelight tours, call 322-1053.

"Blossoms of Light" is sponsored by the *Rocky Mountain News* and KMGH-TV Channel 7. Cost is $4 for adults, $2 for persons 65 and older and children 6 to 15. DBG members' discounted tickets are $3 for adults, $1 for persons 65 and older and children 6 to 15. Children 5 and younger are admitted free. For more information, call 370-8187.

Concerts, theater at the Gardens for holidays

Denver Botanic Gardens will present three special concerts and two "Shakespearean" plays during the December holidays.

Wind Machine, a Colorado favorite, will perform Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 13 and 14. The group was formed in 1985 as an acoustic guitar-oriented duo and has, through the years, blossomed into a group of five innovative and expressive musicians. The quintet has become an international phenomenon with the popularity of their 10 commercially available recordings.

Lannie Garrett and Her Big Band return to the Gardens Dec. 19. The show features nostalgic songs from the '30s and '40s played to perfection by a nine-piece band. From chanteuse to blues-belter, Lannie builds a performance with an uncanny mix of comedy and charisma.

New to the holiday series this year are two theater acts by Compass Theatre Company. Since the troupe's formation five years ago, it has garnered several awards for performances in Denver and elsewhere in Colorado. The company's appearances at DBG this summer were so well-received it has been recalled for the holidays.

"Swan of Avon" will premier at the Gardens Thursday, Dec. 21. The play is a celebration of the life and times of William Shakespeare, drawn extensively from letters, diaries, poems and songs of the court of Queen Elizabeth I, and excerpts from Shakespeare's works. It is a perfect introduction to the work of this most extraordinary of dramatic writers.

"Come Into the Garden, Maude" Wednesday, Dec. 27, is an evening of music, verse and prose that demonstrates man's enduring love of all things botanical. The Compass troupe depicts the joy of gardening, the delights of nature and a fascination with horticulture in this delightful performance.

All concert and theater performances are in John C. Mitchell II Hall at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. Tickets to the Wind Machine and Lannie Garrett concerts are $10 for DBG members, $12 for nonmembers. Cost for the theater performances is $9 for members, $11 for nonmembers. Reservations are very limited; call 370-8187 today.

Gift certificates for Colorado gardeners

Here's an unusually helpful gift idea: a certificate for one of DBG's many classes. Horticulture classes are designed especially for Rocky Mountain and High Plains gardeners and are taught by local experts: DBG staff and green industry professionals. The list of courses is growing: This winter and spring there are 10 new classes in horticulture, botany, natural history, horticultural therapy, floral arts and cooking.

Gardening in Colorado is as challenging as it is rewarding. Our intense sunlight, generally alkaline soils, low humidity, low precipitation, temperature swings and weather catastrophes are offset by vivid colors, few diseases and abundant days suitable for working in the garden. But techniques worked out for other areas of the country need to be reinterpreted for gardeners here. DBG's classes address both the challenges and the rewards.

Please call 370-8020 or 370-8019 to order a gift certificate—or sign up for yourself.

October employee of the month

The October employee of the month is Outside Horticulturist David DeRose. David is recognized for his friendly and helpful attitude. He is always pleasant and willing to discuss the gardens and answer questions for visitors and co-workers. The indoor staff greatly appreciated David's kind delivery of fresh cut flowers to beautify our offices this past summer—a true example of his thoughtful and caring nature. Congratulations, David.

New third-quarter members

Four Seasons members

Denver Botanic Gardens welcomes the following Four Seasons members who began or renewed their support during the third quarter of 1995. Four Seasons members provide annual leadership support of $1,000 or more. Their generosity is vital to the ongoing operation of the Gardens' research, education and horticulture programs.

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Benson
Dr. William A. Campbell
Ms. Holland Coors
Mrs. Cris Dobbins
Mrs. Katherine Stapleton
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard H. Gemmill
Mr. & Mrs. George C. Gibson
Mr. & Mrs. William G. Griffith
Ms. June Harper
Mr. & Mrs. James B. Kurtz
Mr. Charles R. McCotter
Mr. & Mrs. John C. Mitchell II
Ms. Kathleen M. Price
Mr. Daniel L. Ritchie
Mr. & Mrs. Donald E. Scott
Mr. & Mrs. Paul L. Swalm

Travel Note

Here's a reminder to join us for the DBG trip to Ireland May 12–21, 1996. For details, see the October *Green Thumb News*, page 7, or call Tammy Gates, 370-8064.

Supporting Members

Denver Botanic Gardens also welcomes the following who began or renewed their memberships in the third quarter at the supporting levels.

Perennial Partners

Mrs. Elsa A. Burrows
Mr. Michael J. Renth

Conservator's Society

Ms. Mary G. Armour
Ms. Mary C. Gray & Ms. Doreen Gray
Mr. & Mrs. Earl R. Moore
Mr. Robert Newman & Mrs. Judi Newman
Mr. Howard Turetzky & Mrs. Susan Turetzky

Botanist Club

Mr. & Mrs. Michael M. Ambrozic
Ms. Dotty A. Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Appel
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace R. Arthur
Mr. William Biggs
Ms. Sheila Bisenius
Mr. Rick Blair
Ms. Kathryn A. Bollhoefer
Mr. Mark D. Chase & Ms. Ellen M. Balaguer
Mr. & Mrs. Furman T. Clark
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Corporate members

Thanks to the following companies who joined or renewed their support during the third quarter of 1995:

Englewood Garden Center
First Data Corporation
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Tributes

In memory of William J. Bolis
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Mr. James C. Seccombe
In honor of Alicia Briley Hombs' birth
Herman & Helen Newquist
In honor of Marion Eichberg's 75th birthday
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Appel

Birthdays... anniversaries... memorials... You may make a contribution to the Gardens in memory or in honor of someone you love. Call 370-8064 for information.

From your membership office

Members will 'Herald the Season'

"Herald the Season," DBG's members-only preview of "Blossoms of Light," will be Wednesday, Dec. 6, and Thursday, Dec. 7, from 7 to 9 each evening. The event will bring excitement to young and old, with music, holiday craft projects, storytelling, Santa, sweets, hot cider and other treats. Reservations are required and limited: 370-8187.

Behind-the-scenes adventure awaits new members

New members are invited to a light lunch and behind-the-scenes tour of the production greenhouses by DBG's greenhouse staff and volunteers Sunday, Jan. 21, from 12 to 2 p.m. Watch for your invitation in the mail. Reservations are limited. Call 370-8018 after Jan. 1 to make your reservation.

Goblins say thanks!

The DBG membership and special events goblins thank the many volunteers who helped make "Goblins in the Gardens" such a wild success! Without devoted and hard working volunteers, events such as this would not be possible. Thanks, also, to Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream, M&M Mars and King Soopers for generous donations to the event.

Give a DBG Membership!

General Benefits for All Members

- Free admission to York Street and Chatfield facilities
- *Green Thumb News* and *Mountain, Plain & Garden* magazine
- Discounts on classes and field trips
- 10% discount at Gift Shop and at the Plant & Book Sale
- Early admission to the Plant & Book Sale
- Free plant upon joining and a yearly dividend plant
- Borrowing privileges at Helen Fowler Library

❑ The Gardener–$25–One card admits member; one guest pass.

❑ The Landscaper–$35–One card admits member and guest; two guest passes.

❑ The Arbor Circle–$50–Two cards, each card admits three; greenhouse tours; four guest passes; $5 Gift Shop certificate (through Jan. 1)

❑ The Botanist Club–$120–Two cards, each card admits three; merchant discounts; greenhouse tours; a breakfast in the Gardens; 10 guest passes; $5 Gift Shop certificate (through Jan. 1)

Senior Member Dividend—Members 65 or older at any level of membership may ask for another guest pass each time they use their card to enter the Gardens!

With each gift we will send a special 3½ x 4½ magnetic picture frame as an introductory bonus.

Please send a gift membership to:

Name(s) _____

_____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Donor's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Sign gift card _____

Gift card ❑ taken, or mail ❑ to recipient ❑ to me, by (date) _____

Enclosed is my check for $ _____ to Denver Botanic Gardens.

Charge membership to ❑ VISA ❑ MC

_____ Exp.____

Signature _____

Recipients receive a card informing them of your gift plus a free plant that may be picked up at the Gardens.

Please return this form with payment to:

Denver Botanic Gardens Membership Office
Dept. 251
Denver, CO 80291-0251

Questions or to order by phone: 370-8029.

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December

December

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31						

January

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28	29	30	31			

Coming Up: Classes are in italics. An * indicates the first meeting of a class with more than one session. For **course information** refer to DBG's fall *Education Programs* or 303-370-8020. For **current DBG events information**: 303-370-8187. For current plant and arts **society meeting information**: 303-370-8097.

December

2 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum
Colorado Water Garden Society meeting
Holiday Evergreen Wreath

5 Colorado Native Plant Society meeting
Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society meeting

6 *A Holiday Birch Wreath*

6 & 7 Herald the Season—for members only

7 Gardeners of America meeting

9 "Teddy Bear Teas"
"Blossoms of Light" opening festivities
❄ Metro on the Mall
❄ Gore Range Brass Quintet
Advanced Holiday Ornaments from Straw & Wheat

10 ❄ Katherine Kawakami: Koto

11 ❄ Consort Colorado

12 ❄ Denver Concert Band

13 Holiday Concert: Wind Machine
❄ Ron Tomocik, accordion

14 Holiday Concert: Wind Machine
❄ Ron Tomocik, accordion
African Violet Society meeting

15 ❄ Metro on the Mall

16 "Teddy Bear Teas"
❄ Carillon Ringers

17 ❄ Metro Academy of Dance

18 ❄ Wick School of Irish Dancing

19 Holiday Concert: Lannie Garrett & Her Big Band
❄ Salvation Army Brass

20 ❄ Cherie Karo Schwartz: storytelling

21 Compass Theatre: "Swan of Avon"
❄ Salvation Army Brass

22 ❄ Upsidasium

23 ❄ Colorado Gold

24 ❄ Dickens Carolers

25 ❄ Ron Tomocik, accordion

26 ❄ Boulder County Mestizo Partnership, Mexican dancing

27 Compass Theatre: "Come Into the Garden, Maude"
❄ Ron Tomocik, accordion

28 ❄ Wick School of Irish Dancing

29 ❄ Rocky Mountain Highland Dancers

30 ❄ Terry Moore, Kwanzaa storytelling

31 ❄ Chapel Bells

January

1 "Blossoms of Light" final evening
❄ Dickens Carolers

5 Free day at Chatfield Arboretum

21 New Members Party

Note: Performances marked with ❄ are included in "Blossoms of Light" admission fees.

See "Blossoms of Light" insert in the November *GTN* or call 370-8187 for ticket prices for Herald the Season, "Teddy Bear Teas," Holiday Concerts and Compass Theatre performances.

Photo contest entry deadline two months away

With the deadline for the 1996 photo contest just a few months away, why not venture out to Denver Botanic Gardens this month and take some shots of the thousands of beautiful poinsettias in Marnie's Pavilion? Or head out to Chatfield Arboretum after the next snowfall and snap a beautiful winter wonderland of trees and grasses?

Then pick out your best shots and enter them in the "Picture a Great Garden" photo contest and show. First-place finishers in the adult and youth (15 and younger) divisions will receive Pentax cameras. The second-place award in each division will be a year of photo developing from Robert Waxman Camera and Video. Third-place finishers will receive DBG family memberships.

Outstanding photos will be displayed in John C. Mitchell II Hall March 22 to 24. Photographer of the people's choice winner, determined at the end of the show, will receive a copy of renowned nature photographer John Fielder's book *Rocky Mountain National Park: A 100-Year Perspective.*

Photos must be taken at one of the four DBG sites—1005 York St., Chatfield Arboretum, Mount Goliath or Walter S. Reed Botanical Garden. They must be 5"x7", 8"x10" or 11"x17" and do not need to be mounted. A $5 entry fee per photo ($3 in the youth division) will help defray the cost of the contest and show. Entries are due to the reception area in DBG's Waring House, 909 York St., by 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16.

For complete information or an entry form, which includes directions to the four DBG sites, please call 370-8018 or drop by the DBG lobby at 1005 York St.